2022 Chicago White Sox

Yearbook

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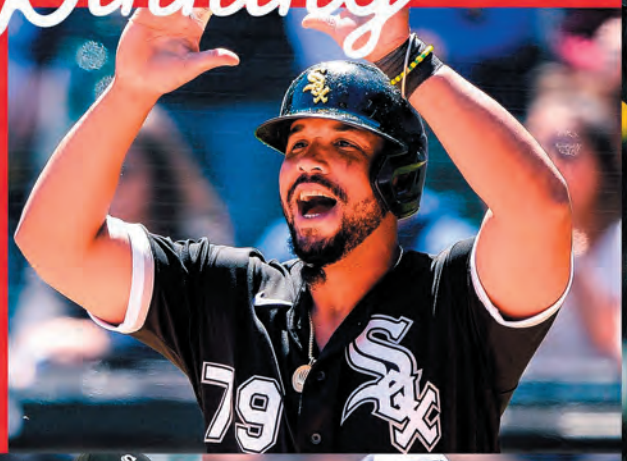
Winning Ways



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CHICAGO WHITE SOX

A.L. Central Division Defending Champs

Cuban Comet Reaches Cooperstown

50th Anniversary 1972 team

75th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson Day

Rookie of the Year to MVP: José Abreu

Remembering Roland Hemond

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AMERICAN LEAGUE
DIVISION CHAMPIONS

2021 2008 2005 2000 1993 1983

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHAMPIONS

2005 1959 1919 1917 1906 1901 1900

WORLD SERIES
CHAMPIONS

2005 1917 1906

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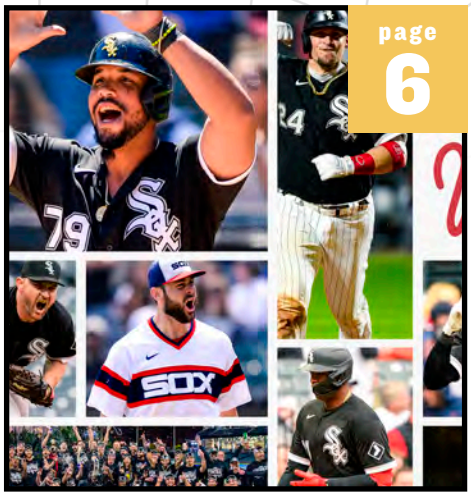
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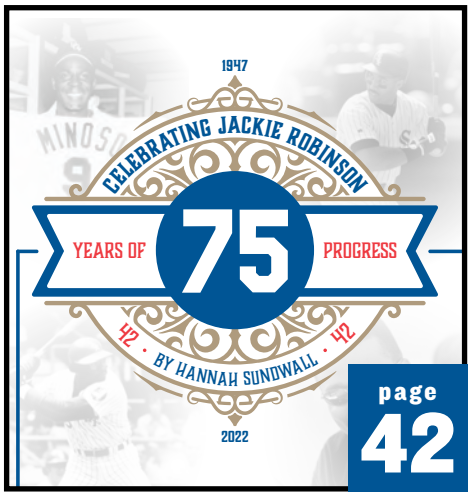

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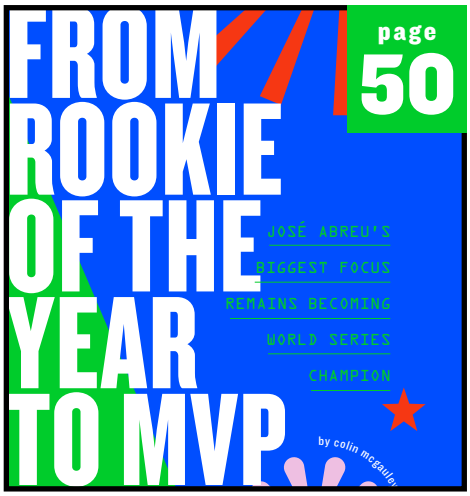

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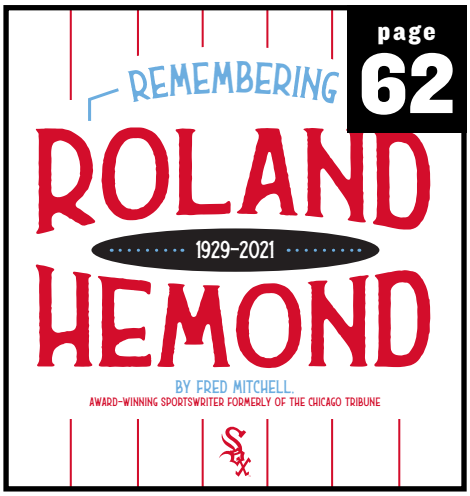

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2021 American League Central Champions

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CENTRAL
DIVISION CHAMPS
20 21

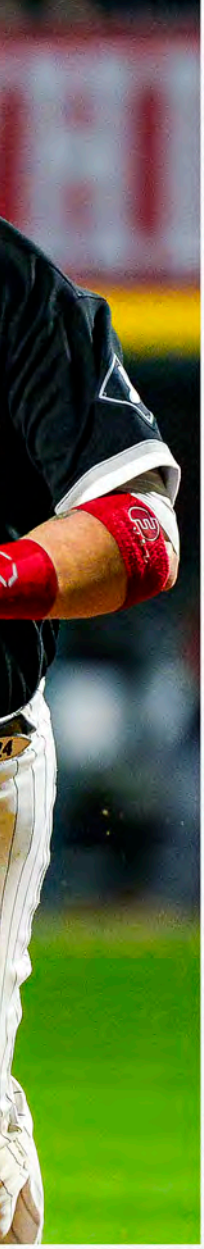
AMERICAN LEAGUE
CENTRAL

POSTSEASON
AMERICAN LEAGUE
CENTRAL
DIVISION CHAMPS
20

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CENTRAL
DIVISION CHAMPS
20 21

POSTSEASON
AMERICAN LEAGUE
CENTRAL
DIVISION CHAMPS
20 21

SOX



Winning Window

by Colin McGauley

Following the team's first back-to-back postseason appearances in franchise history, the White Sox window for World Series contention is wide open. Having finished the 2021 season with a sixth American League Central Division championship, fans can take great pride knowing this core of young talent hopes to capitalize on its top-tier roster depth for years to come. Embracing a 'eyes on the ultimate prize' mindset, nearly the entire starting lineup returns to Chicago in the hopes of bringing a World Series parade to its streets through 2022 and beyond. Here is a snapshot of the team's future, highlighting how last year's historic season may be merely the beginning of greatness on the South Side.

Putting Together the Framework:

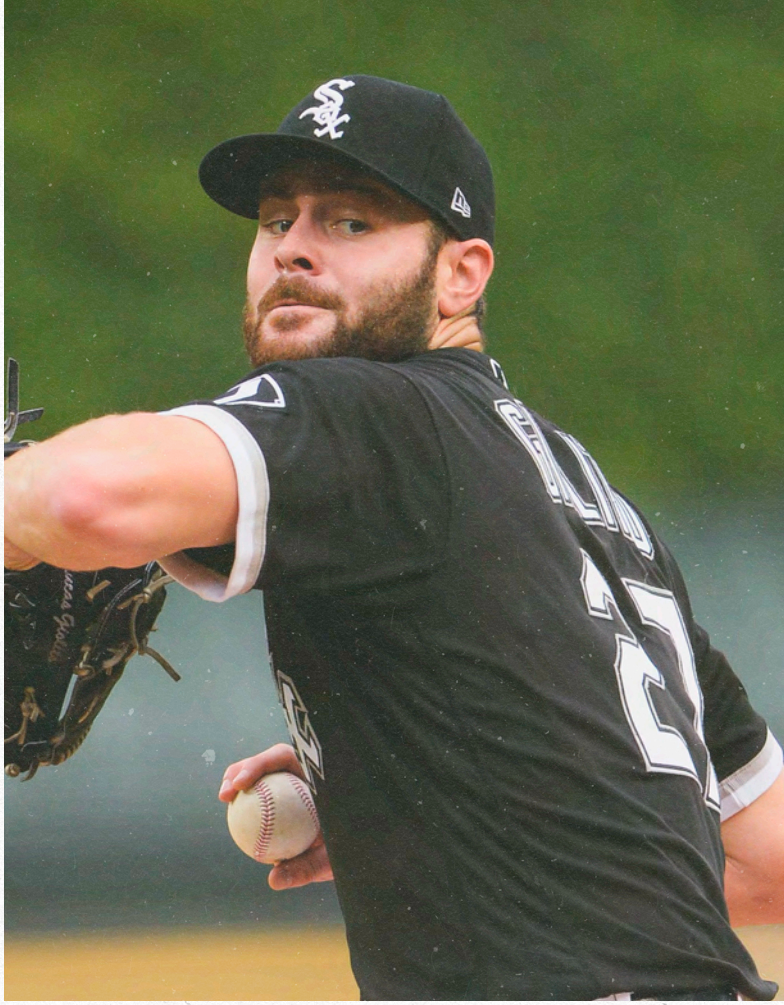
Since White Sox General Manager Rick Hahn officially announced the rebuild in 2017, he has shown an unwavering commitment to adding depth throughout the entire White Sox system. The framework began with a replenishment of headlining prospects – now well-known names like Dylan Cease, Lucas Giolito, Eloy Jiménez, Michael Kopech, Reynaldo López and Yoán Moncada were acquired in trades to join top international prospect Luis Robert prior to August that very same season.

Trusting in that young core, the White Sox spent the beginning stages of the rebuild avoiding splashy and high-risk acquisitions that required giving up too much in return. More than anything, the front office prioritized sustainability, far from an all-or-nothing one-year gamble. The coaching staff groomed each prospect, growing their skillset through a talent-rich minor league system, all while maintaining financial flexibility and making calculated draft selections.

Only when the time was right, and pieces of the overall puzzle began to show postseason promise, did executives add more-proven MLB All-Stars with a slightly higher price tag to position the team in 'win-now' mode.

> "It makes all of us happy for me to be able to sit here four years after the Chris Sale trade and legitimately have World Series aspirations.

That's not wish-casting; not us through rose-colored glasses. That's realistic. That's how the league views this team," Hahn said at the start of Spring Training in 2021. "We haven't accomplished anything until there's another banner above Guaranteed Rate Field."



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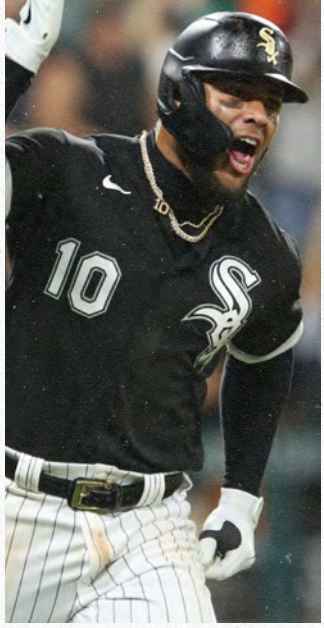
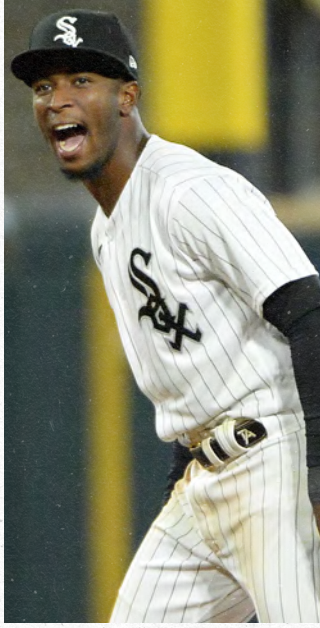
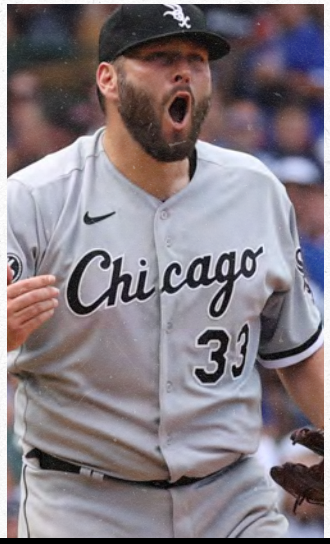
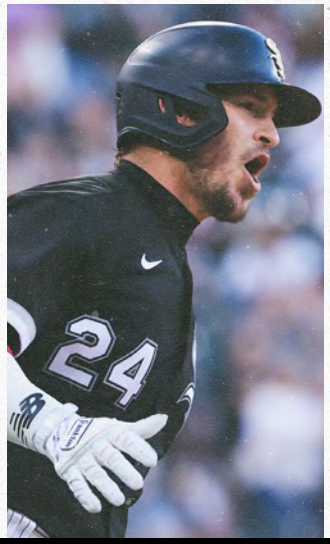



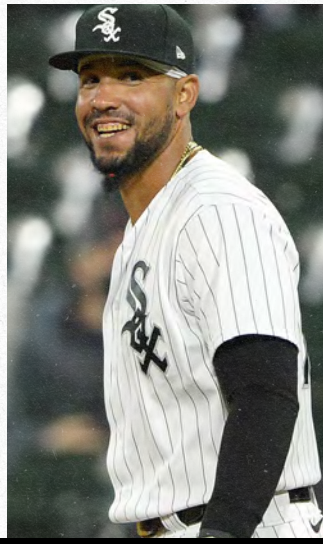
The fruits of this progression now show a core that is built to last. Here is a list of key players, and the year through which they are currently signed with the White Sox:

- **Luis Robert:** 2025 (options for 2026-27)
- **Aaron Bummer:** 2024 (options for 2025-26)
- **Eloy Jiménez:** 2024 (options 2025-26)
- **Yoán Moncada:** 2024 (option for 2025)
- **Tim Anderson:** 2022 (options for 2023-24)
- **Liam Hendriks:** 2024
- **Lance Lynn:** 2023 (option for 2024)
- **Yasmani Grandal:** 2023
- **Dallas Keuchel:** 2022 (option for 2023)
- **José Abreu:** 2022

The White Sox also have enjoyed contributions from pitchers Cease, Garrett Crochet, Kopech, López and Giolito, as well as slugging newcomers Gavin Sheets and Andrew Vaughn, all of whom are on their first professional contracts.

"We've got MVP and Silver Slugger candidates throughout that lineup, controllable for an extended period of time thanks to some foresight and proactive work on our part," Hahn said heading into December 2021. "Got Cy Young candidates throughout the rotation and pen. There are ways for us to get better. We're going to continue to try to get better... I expect us through the summer to get better through growth and potentially through other acquisitions."



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A New Era of White Sox Baseball:

As Hahn alluded, this depth and expectation has shifted the mentality of fans, as the White Sox look to follow through on a promise made in 2020 to 'Change the Game.'

That promise began with the hire of Hall of Fame Manager and three-time World Series Champion Tony La Russa who, at the time of his hire, noted what the organization was building.

"I think what's exciting here is that when we put our talent, the depth of our talent, alongside [World Series teams like our 1989 Oakland Athletics and the 2006 and 2011 St. Louis Cardinals], you can see why the opportunity is real."

Embracing the spirit of Chicago's South Side – a mindset centered on hard work, grit and drive that is synonymous with the White Sox and the team's fan culture – the club flexed its resiliency and power over divisional and crosstown rivals all season long in 2021 and look to repeat such successes again this season.

But even with 93 wins, Hahn and the team were not satisfied.

"I tend to be binary about these things. It's pass-fail, we didn't win the final game of the postseason. We didn't meet our ultimate goal, so if you're looking for my personal assessment, we didn't reach the ultimate final goal, so how can we possibly be satisfied?" said Hahn in his first interview following the team's American League Divisional Series loss to Houston.

The players also feel that shift to a winning culture.

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> When you come into a season with a team with this much talent and a chance to win, you make sure you get yourself ready to try to get to a whole new level

"When you come into a season with a team with this much talent and a chance to win, you make sure you get yourself ready to try to get to a whole new level," said Lynn, a self-proclaimed 'South Side guy' who the White Sox signed to a two-year extension with a club option. "The older I get in this game, the more I respect and enjoy these moments because you don't know when you're going to get them again."

His All-Star teammate Tim Anderson also spoke about the team's lineup depth.

"We can be dangerous all the way through. You have to go through that lineup four or five times, and that's tough to do. If we keep fighting and keep pushing and keep being good teammates, we have a chance to do something real special."

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All Eyes on Returning to a Third Consecutive Postseason:

The White Sox provided some of the boldest and most electric moments of 2021. They earned national spotlight for record-breaking individual accolades, consecutive seasons with a no-hitter, a movie-worthy walk-off to the cornfields, and most importantly, a historic trip to consecutive postseasons.

Make no mistake, the players relish in the hype of this promising winning window, understanding they have set a new precedent for baseball fans on Chicago's South Side and beyond – postseason contention is not enough.

"We want to win a ring. We want to win a World Series

said Giolito. "We're at the point now where the word rebuild is completely out of the vocabulary. We're a very, very good team, and we expect to win."

"There's a lot of reason for hope going forward," said Hahn. "We like where we are as an organization, we like the direction this team is going. This is what we worked for – to be in a position on an annual basis to have realistic World Series aspirations... we can realistically say that." ■

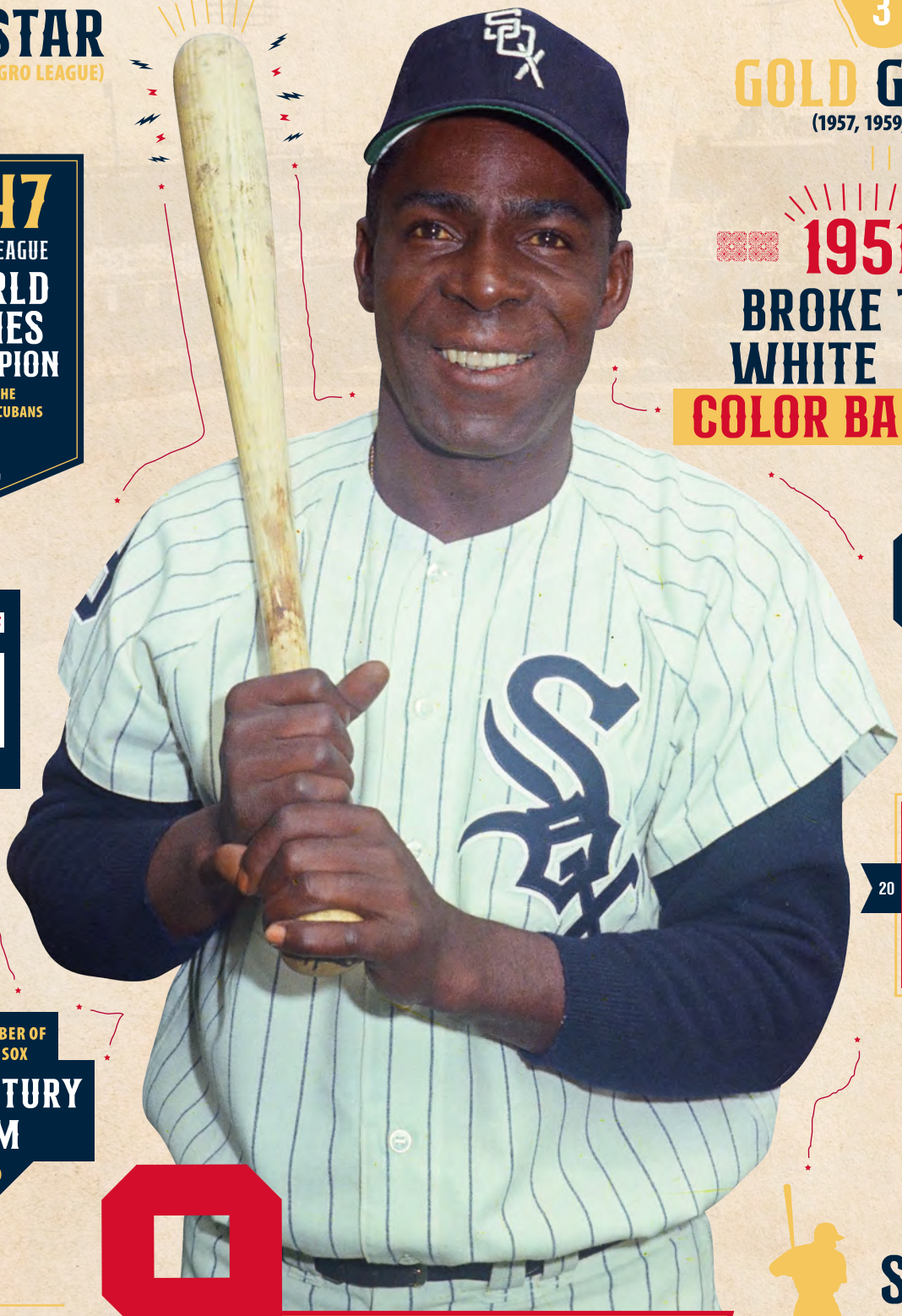
"MR. WHITE SOX"

13
ALL-STAR
(9X MLB) (4X NEGRO LEAGUE)

1947
NEGRO LEAGUE
WORLD SERIES CHAMPION
WITH THE NEW YORK CUBANS

THE SPORTING NEWS
ROOKIE
OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER
1951

VOTED A MEMBER OF THE WHITE SOX
ALL-CENTURY TEAM
IN 2000



3
GOLD GLOVE
(1957, 1959, 1960)

1951
BROKE THE WHITE SOX COLOR BARRIER

TOP 4
OF THE
A.L. MOST VALUABLE PLAYER VOTING
(FOUR TIMES)

INDUCTED INTO THE
HISPANIC HERITAGE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME
20 02

9
NUMBER RETIRED BY THE WHITE SOX IN 1983

STATUE
UNVEILED AT GUARANTEED RATE FIELD
(THEN U.S. CELLULAR FIELD)
IN 2004

MINNIE MIÑOSO THE CUBAN COMET

REACHES COOPERSTOWN

BY ED SHERMAN

IT WAS OVERDUE – LONG OVERDUE IN THE EYES OF MANY – BUT MINNIE MIÑOSO WILL BE INDUCTED INTO BASEBALL'S HALL OF FAME.

HE WAS A HUMBLE GUY FROM A RANCH IN CUBA, AND HE WENT ON TO ACCOMPLISH SOME AMAZING THINGS

CHARLIE RICE MIÑOSO (SON)

The White Sox legend's election by the Golden Days Era Committee in December gave the ultimate confirmation that Miñoso not only was one of the most dynamic players of his era, but also someone whose impact as a Latin American pioneer transcended the game beyond the lines. While Miñoso, who died in 2015, won't be in attendance on his big day in Cooperstown in July, his family, his White Sox family, friends and legion of fans will celebrate his enduring spirit, passion and love for the White Sox and baseball.

"He was a humble guy from a ranch in Cuba, and he went on to accomplish some amazing things," Charlie Rice-Miñoso said of his father.

Indeed, Miñoso had an amazing career. Yet only veteran White Sox fans can recall how thrilling it was to actually watch him excel at Comiskey Park more than 60 years ago. Aside from 10 plate appearances in 1976 (age 50) and 1980 (age 54), subsequent generations of fans knew Miñoso more for his colorful personality as an ever-present exuberant ambassador and approachable icon for the Sox until the day he died.

For those who didn't see Miñoso play, and even for those who did, here is why he is going to have a plaque in Cooperstown.

GOLDEN DAYS ERA BALLOT

THE CUBAN COMET REACHES COOPERSTOWN

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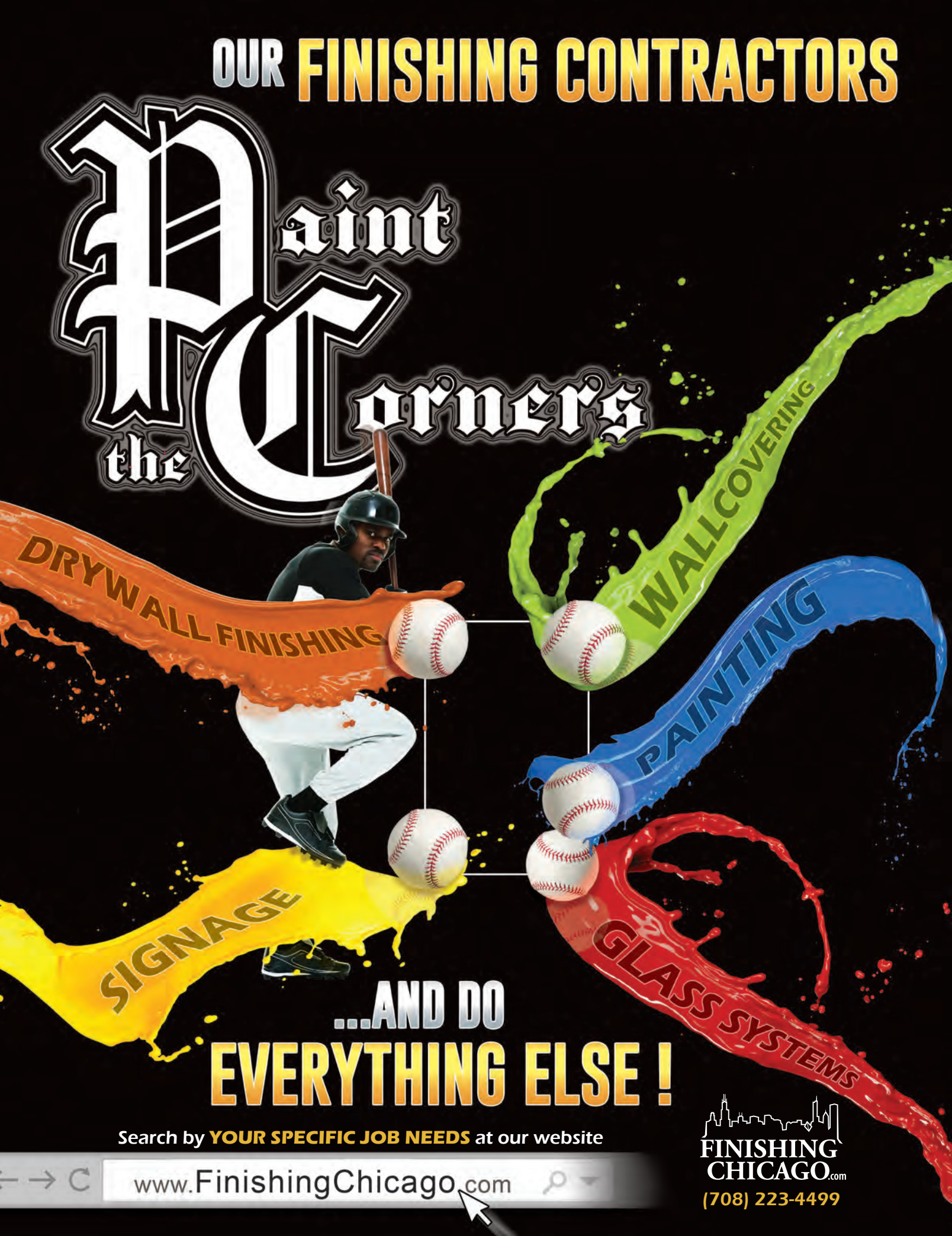

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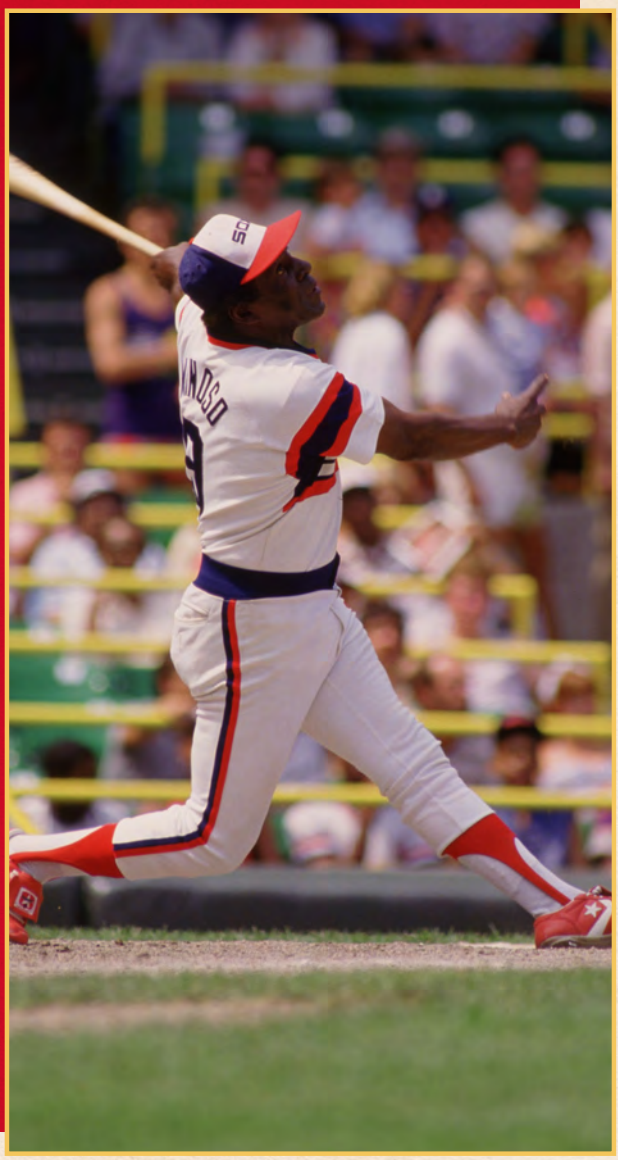

Statistics play a huge factor in Hall of Fame voting – the bigger the numbers, the better chance of being selected. Slam 500 homers, collect 3,000 hits, compile a .325 career batting average, and the door usually swings open to Cooperstown.

Miñoso didn't have those numbers. For years, Miñoso likely was held back because he only had 1,960 hits in the Major Leagues; (No player since Jackie Robinson has been inducted to the Hall with less than 2,000 hits). There also was a contention his Major League Baseball career was too short. He appeared in parts of 20 seasons (including three in the Negro National League) but only logged over 200 plate appearances in 12 of them.

Thankfully, with modern analytics taking a much deeper dive into statistics, there is a more accurate perspective of Miñoso's career. The inclusion of his three seasons in the Negro Leagues, now considered to be part of a player's official statistics, bumped his hit total to 2,110. Miñoso's peak Major League years would have been longer if he was able to break into the big leagues sooner. In part because of his race, Miñoso did not reach the major leagues full-time until 1951. There always have been some discrepancies about his age. The Baseball-Reference site has him listed as 25 in 1951, but he might have been as old as 29. Either way, he lost several prime years.

AVERAGE	GAMES	RUNS	HITS	TOTAL BASES
.299	1946	1225	2110	3250
DOUBLES	**TRIPLES**	**RUNS BATTED IN**	**BASE ON BALLS**	**ON BASE PERCENTAGE**
365	95	1093	850	.387

MINNIE MIÑOSO RANKS FIRST IN TRIPLES/OBP, SECOND IN AVG, THIRD IN RUNS SCORED/DOUBLES, FOURTH IN HITS/RUNS BATTED IN/BASE ON BALLS/TOTAL BASES AMONG CUBAN-BORN PLAYERS.

NUMBERS

13
ALL-STAR
(9X MLB) (4X NEGRO LEAGUE)

3
GOLD GLOVE
(1957, 1959, 1960)

“WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT THE TOP PLAYERS IN THE AMERICAN LEAGUE IN THE 1950s, YOU TALK ABOUT TED WILLIAMS, MICKEY MANTLE AND MINNIE MIÑOSO.”

JERRY REINSDORF
(WHITE SOX CHAIRMAN)

Indeed, SABR researcher Scott Simkus found that when you add together his Major League hits, minor league hits, Cuban League hits, Mexican League hits and Negro Leagues hits, he places seventh all time with 4,073 hits, ahead of Derek Jeter and Stan Musial, and behind players such as Hank Aaron, Ty Cobb and Pete Rose – pretty good company there.

Miñoso’s statistics from his 10 years as a regular player from 1951-1961 also place him in an elite club. He had a 52.2 WAR, placing eighth behind Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, Eddie Mathews, Stan Musial, Aaron, Ernie Banks, and Duke Snider. His 319 doubles placed second to Musial, and he was second to Mays with 193 stolen bases. He was fifth in Runs Created with 1,133, trailing Mantle, Musial, Mays, and Mathews.

The common thread to the other players on those lists: They are all in the Hall of Fame.

Plus, Miñoso won three Gold Gloves, played in nine Major League All-Star games, and four times placed in the top four in MVP voting.

Miñoso also had some incredible individual seasons. In 1951, his rookie year with the White Sox, he hit .326 with a .422 on-base percentage. He led the league with 31 stolen bases and 14 triples. Yet despite finishing fourth in MVP voting, he placed second in the Rookie of the Year race to the Yankees’ Gil McDougal, who was ninth in MVP voting.

Miñoso had perhaps his best overall season in 1954 (.320/.411/.535 slash line and led the A.L. with 18 triples, 304 total bases and an 8.3 WAR). Many felt he deserved to be the MVP, but he finished fourth again.

White Sox chairman Jerry Reinsdorf was right when he said, “When you talk about the top players in the American League in the 1950s, you talk about Ted Williams, Mickey Mantle and Minnie Miñoso.”

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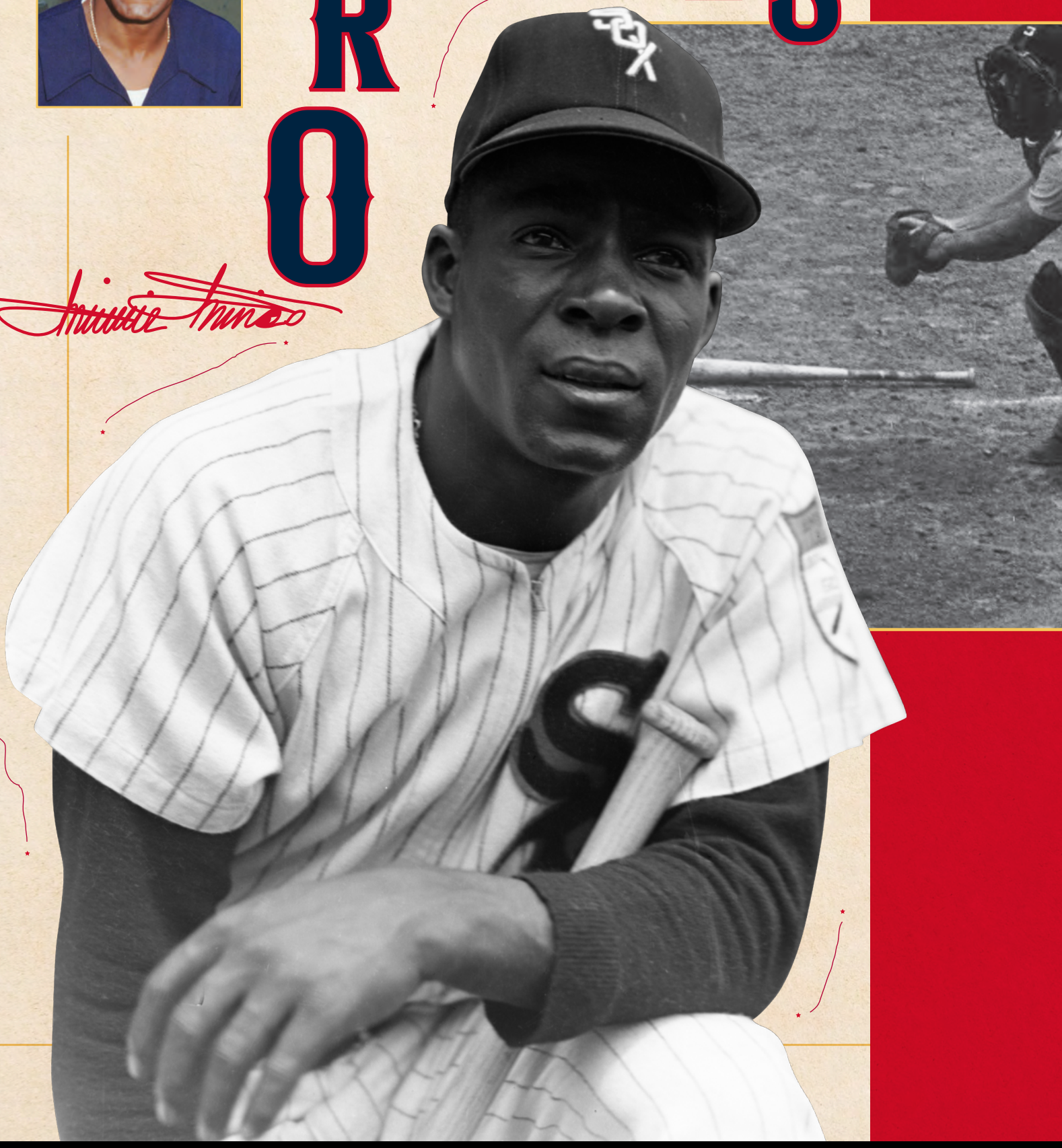


GO-GO

GO-GO MINNIE

Statistics, of course, don't tell the complete story of Miñoso's career. A five-tool player, he used his legs to play with a dazzling flair that revolutionized the game.

In the early '50s, baseball was mostly a game of power with players moving from base to base. Then along came Miñoso, who never saw an extra base he didn't like.

Miñoso's daring base-running turned singles into doubles, and doubles into triples, as evidenced by his 18 triples in 1954. When he led the American League in stolen bases in 1951 with 31, only one other player had more than 20; he topped the A.L. in stolen bases three times.

Sportswriter Furman Bisher once said, "As soon as he gets on base, which is often, a sort of restless hum sweeps across the stands."

His long-time teammate and Sox great Billy Pierce said, "When he got on base, he'd always take the extra base. He gave you 100% at all times."

Miñoso also found a unique way to steal first base. He gave himself up by leading the A.L. 10 times by getting hit by pitch, including a career-high of 23 in 1956.

Miñoso did not waste any time in showing the Sox they acquired a special player when he came over in a trade from Cleveland in 1951. He hit a homer off the Yankees' Vic Raschi in his first at-bat in a White Sox uniform. He then went on to become the flame that ignited the Go-Go Sox era on the South Side.

Frank Lane, the general manager who was hailed for the trade that landed Miñoso, had the perfect description of the thrill of watching Miñoso in his prime:

"I felt Minnie was the one player in the American League who had that intangible quality of excitement that makes fans talk about him when they leave the park."

PIONEER FROM CUBA

> **HE WAS EVERYBODY'S HERO. I WANTED TO BE MIÑOSO. CLEMENTE WANTED TO BE MIÑOSO.**

ORLANDO CEPEDA
(HOF)

All you need to know about Miñoso's immense impact on Latin American players is that Roberto Clemente considered him his hero.

Before Clemente – before everyone else – the Cuban native blazed a trail in becoming the first Latin American player in the big leagues. Future Hall of Fame Orlando Cepeda labels Miñoso "the Jackie Robinson for Latinos."

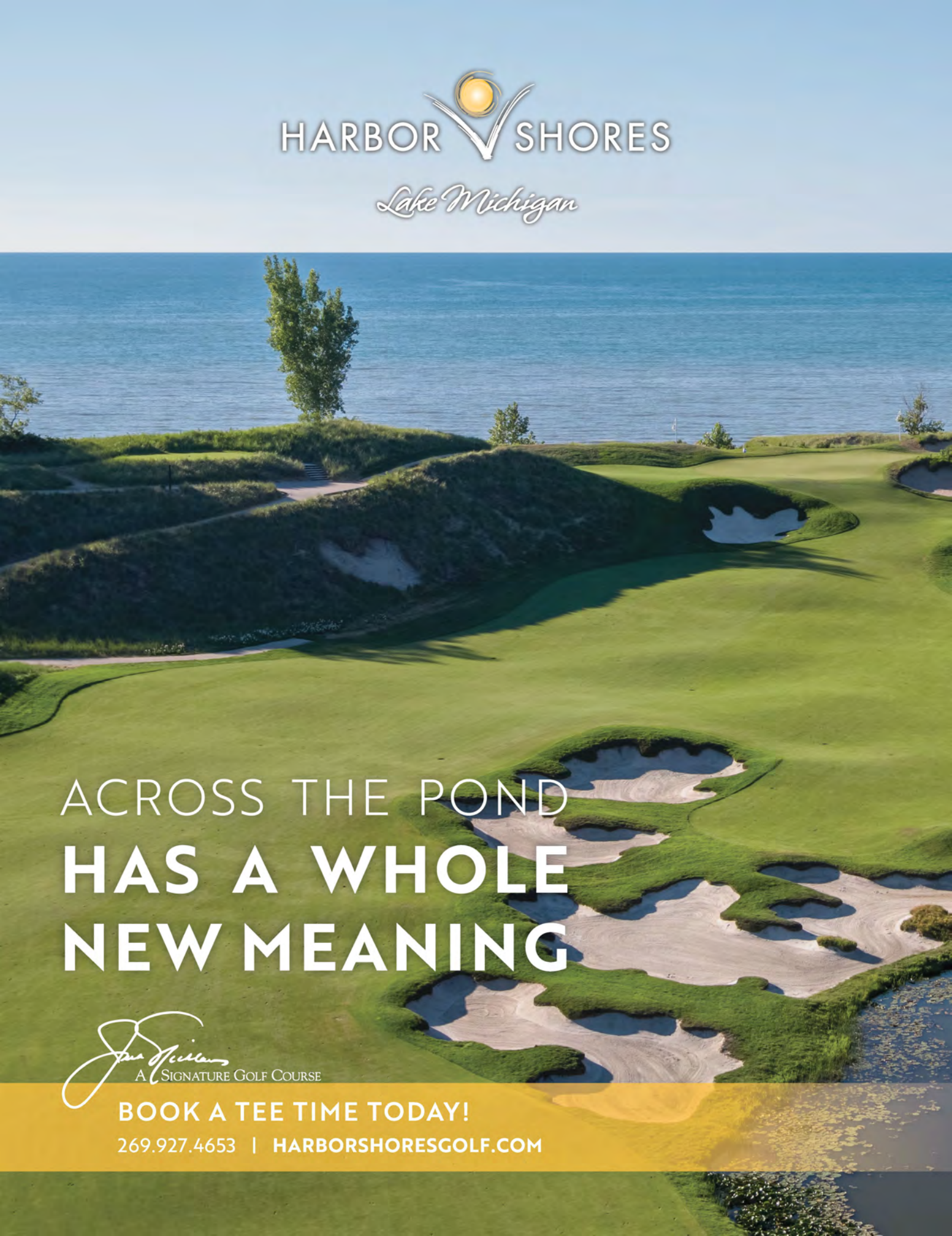
"He was everybody's hero," Cepeda said. "I wanted to be Miñoso. Clemente wanted to be Miñoso."

"Every young player in Cuba wanted to be like Minnie Miñoso, and I was one of them," said Hall of Famer Tony Pérez.

It was difficult for the young Miñoso, who also was the White Sox first Afro-American player. In addition to a language barrier, he had to deal with staying in different hotels than his teammates and hearing racial slurs from fans because of the color of his skin.

"He was good on and off the field," said Cuban native and former Sox pitcher José Contreras. "He fought through all the obstacles put in front of him. He did great. He was a real hero, because I cannot imagine doing all the things that he did at that time."

Many people felt Miñoso's Latin American legacy should have been recognized more when his name came up for consideration in previous Hall of Fame votes. He showed it was possible for a player from Cuba to excel in the big leagues. He inspired generations of Latin American players to follow in his footsteps.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PIONEER FROM CUBA

“

FOR ME AND GENERATIONS OF BLACK AND LATINO YOUNG PEOPLE, MINNIE’S QUINTESSENTIALLY AMERICAN STORY EMBODIES MORE THAN A PLAQUE EVER COULD.

“My husband enjoyed so many relationships within baseball, with the White Sox and with current players,” explained Miñoso’s wife Sharon Rice-Miñoso upon his election to Cooperstown. “He acted like a surrogate father to many players over the years. He loved his countrymen, who they were as people, and their friendships are all a testament to his commitment to how he respected each person he met as an individual regardless of their contributions. I know that’s what he was very proud of creating.”

No less than former President Barack Obama, a long-time Sox fan, eloquently acknowledged Miñoso’s larger impact after his passing in 2015:

“For me and generations of Black and Latino young people, Minnie’s quintessentially American story embodies more than a plaque ever could.”

Now Miñoso will be getting his plaque in Cooperstown. Unfortunately, Miñoso isn’t alive to see it. Miñoso’s family shared it was bittersweet when the announcement was made in December, but Reinsdorf said, “I know our friend is smiling broadly tonight.”

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(FORMER PRESIDENT)

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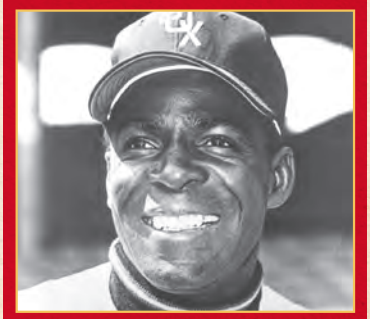
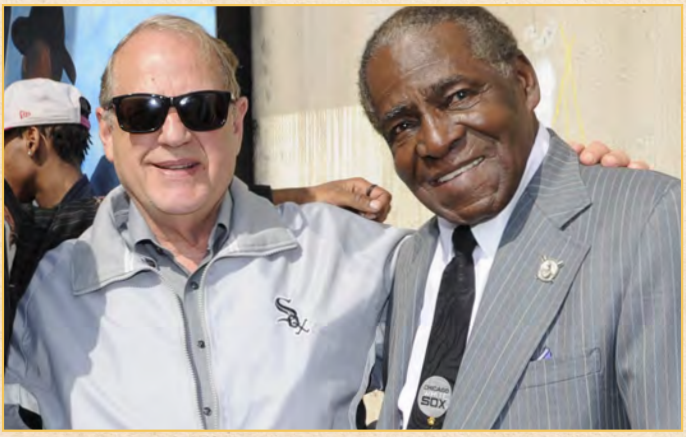
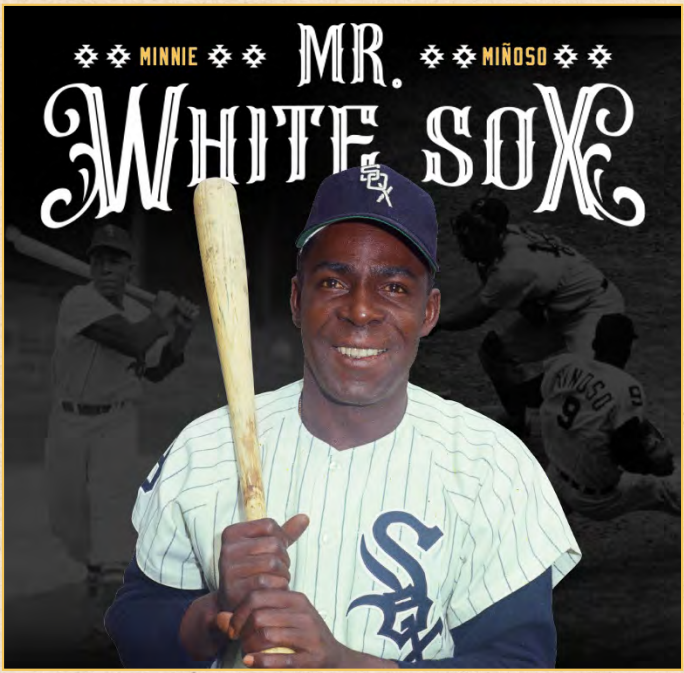


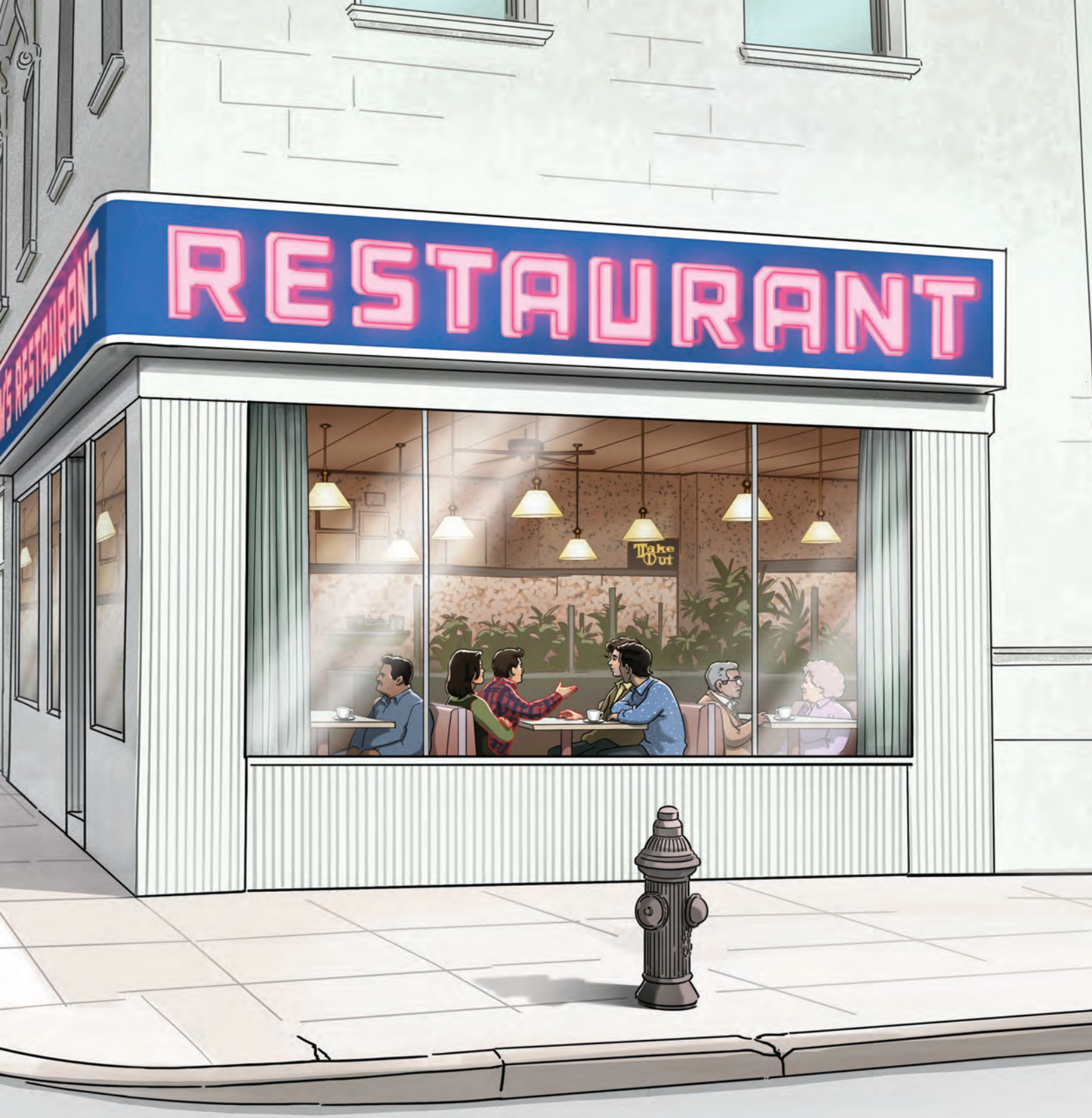
Indeed, Miñoso's story is now complete. Reinsdorf noted that his friend long had been recognized as a Latin American and Afro-American pioneer; as a five-tool dynamo as a player; and as someone who always proudly wore his No. 9 jersey as a White Sox ambassador for decades.

And fittingly and forever more, Reinsdorf said, "Any description of his career now ends with the words, 'Hall of Famer.'"





THE CUBAN COMET REACHES COOPERSTOWN



Seinfeld

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SINCE THE

1972 WHITE SOX

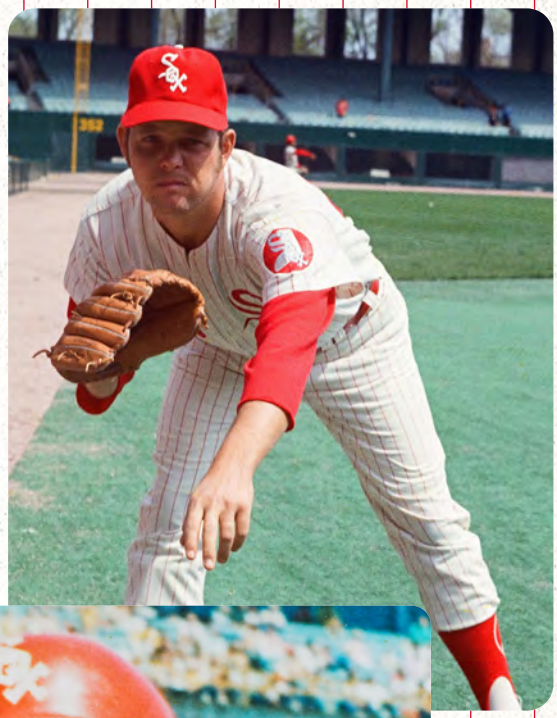
CHANGED THE GAME

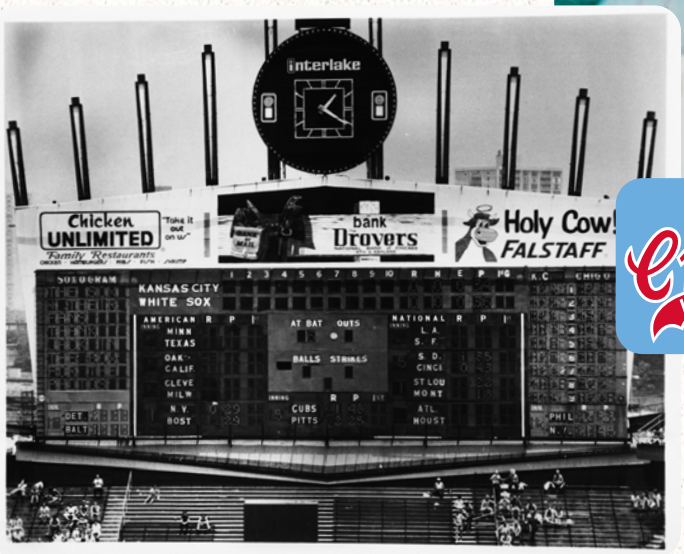
By Ed Sherman

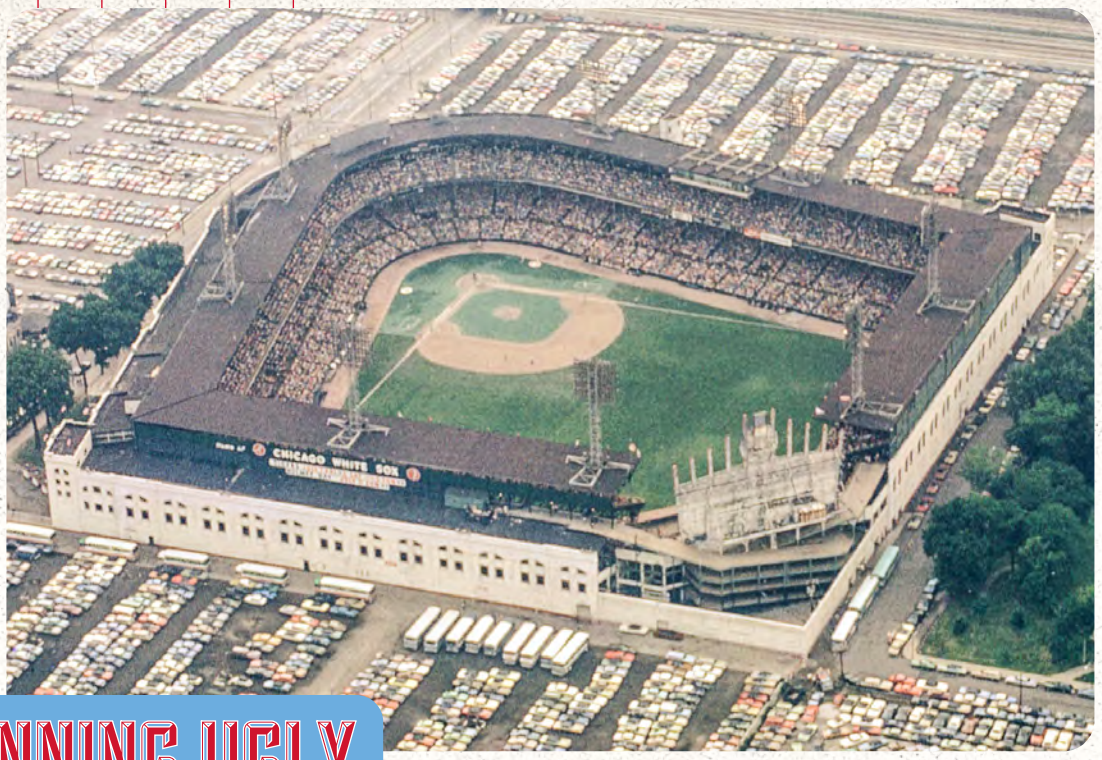
While the 1972 White Sox didn't win a World Series or even qualify for the postseason, they arguably accomplished something much greater: Changing the trajectory of the franchise by bringing fun and excitement back to Chicago's South Side.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of one of the most memorable years in White Sox history – a year when the undermanned White Sox, two seasons removed from being the worst team in baseball, battled the dynasty-bound Oakland A's into September for the American League West title. It was a year when knuckleballer Wilbur Wood made an astounding 49 starts, often pitching on two-days rest, to keep the Sox in the hunt.

Even more, it was the year when newly acquired Dick Allen put the team on his back with a display of awesome power and clutch hitting that still invokes vivid memories for long-time Sox fans half a century later.







WINNING UGLY

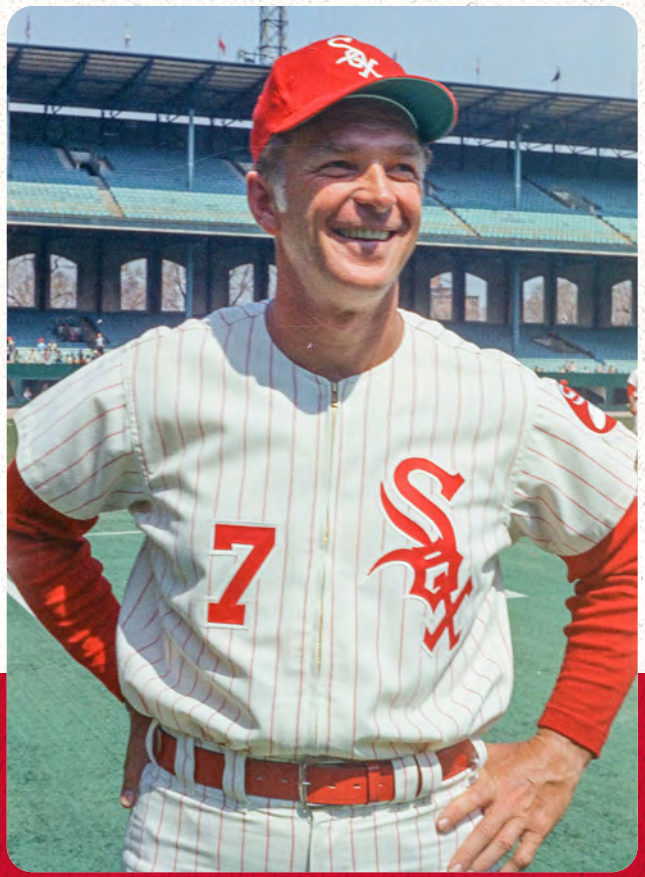
The team's legendary general manager Roland Hemond always maintained the '72 team "saved the White Sox for Chicago." While that point can be debated, there is no question that team ignited a desperate spark of electricity, elevating the Sox back to the city's sports forefront again following several dark seasons at Comiskey Park.

Going into 1972, the White Sox hadn't had a winning season since 1967. They plummeted to a nightmarish 56-106 in 1970 – still the worst season in team history. Not surprisingly, the Sox became irrelevant, drawing only 495,000 fans. In 1968 and 1969, the Sox played a handful of "home" games in Milwaukee's County Stadium, sparking speculation that they may move out of Chicago.

"The fans were kind of down in the dumps," said third baseman and former White Sox All-Star Bill Melton of those years. "Things were bad."

The revival the began when Sox hired Hemond and new manager Chuck Tanner at the end of the 1970 season. A combination of some shrewd moves by Hemond and Tanner's positive approach in the dugout saw the Sox improve to 79-83 in 1971.

Hemond decided he needed to be bold to take the Sox to the next level. During the winter meetings, he asked Tanner if he should make a trade for Allen. Tanner enthusiastically replied, "I'd take him in a second."



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There undoubtedly was risk in a deal that sent pitcher Tommy John and infielder Steve Huntz to the Dodgers for Allen. He was a highly polarizing figure during his years with his Phillies in the 1960s, and his mercurial ways prompted St. Louis and the Dodgers to part with him after only one season. It marked the third time Allen would be traded in three years.

Hemond, though, felt Tanner's managerial approach would work with Allen. It also helped that they both were from the same area in Pennsylvania. Tanner had known Allen's family for years.

However, a highly-disillusioned Allen was less than thrilled to be starting again with a new team. After sitting out spring training, his mother, Era, finally told him, "Go help Chuck."

"SAVED THE WHITE SOX FOR CHICAGO."

SOUTH SIDE HITMEN

Unlike his previous managers, Tanner allowed Allen to do his own thing. He was fine if his star wanted to skip batting practice, which he did on most days. His only request was that Allen played hard during the games. That had never been an issue with him.

"I handle each player as an individual," Tanner said.

Allen seemed to thrive under Tanner's approach. He made his impact felt immediately. A labor dispute forced Opening Day to be pushed back to April 15. Despite missing the entire Spring Training, Allen slammed a massive homer to break a scoreless tie in the ninth inning at Kansas City. Even though the Sox went on to lose the game 2-1 in 11 innings, Allen's blast signaled things were going to be different on the South Side.

Allen went on to mash American League pitching. He used a 40-ounce bat that Tanner said Allen "wielded like a toothpick."

"I thought I was picking up a tree," Melton said. "I said, 'How does a man swing this?'"

Tanner said Allen hit the ball harder than anyone he ever saw, and he was once teammates with Hank Aaron. On August 23 against the Yankees' Lindy McDaniel, Allen hit a rocket to become only the fourth player to reach the centerfield bleachers at Comiskey Park.

Allen also did it with his legs on July 31 when he became the first modern-day player to hit two inside-the-park home runs in the same game – in Minnesota against future Hall of Famer Bert Blyleven. Tanner also said Allen was one of the greatest baserunners he had ever seen.

Allen's most memorable moment occurred during the second game of a Bat Day doubleheader against the Yankees on June 4. After a Sox victory in the opener in front of a packed house of 51,000 fans, Tanner decided to rest Allen for the nightcap.

Allen took off his uniform, thinking he was done for the day. But with two runners on and the Sox trailing 4-2 in the ninth, Tanner sent word to the clubhouse that he wanted Allen to pinch hit. While hastily trying to put on his uniform, he spilled a chili dog on his jersey. He changed to another one, but didn't wear anything underneath, a marked departure from his usual attire of sporting long sleeves even in 100-degree heat.

The big crowd went wild when Allen emerged from the dugout. He did not let them down, hammering Sparky Lyle's second pitch into the leftfield bleachers for a game-winning, three-run homer.

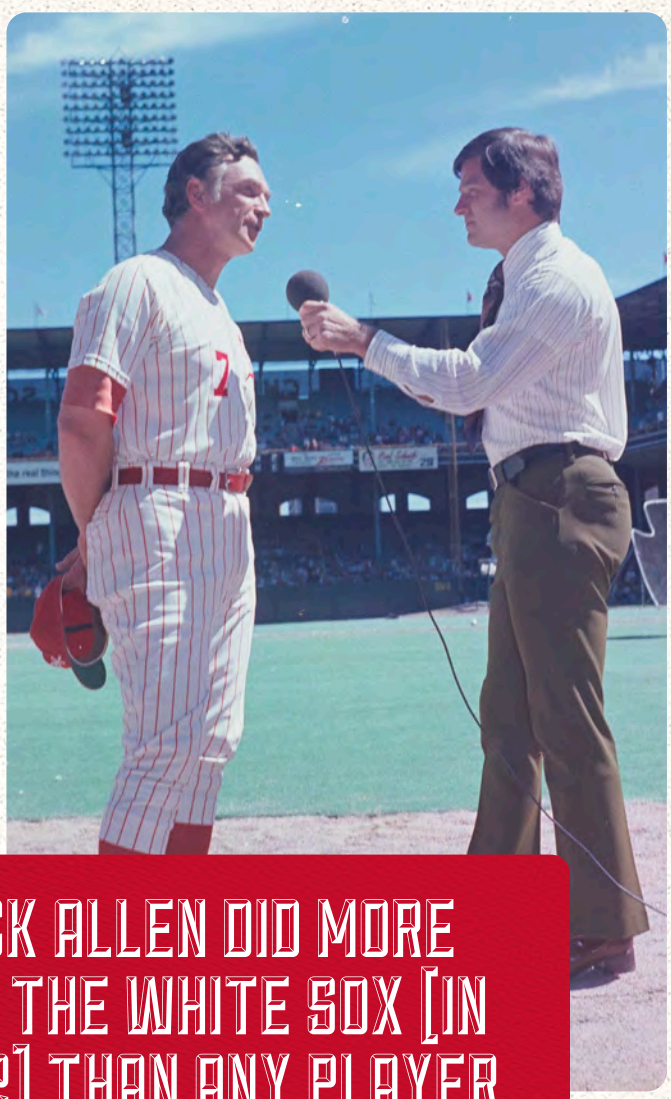
Allen's teammates weren't surprised. "He just had a mystique about him," Melton said.

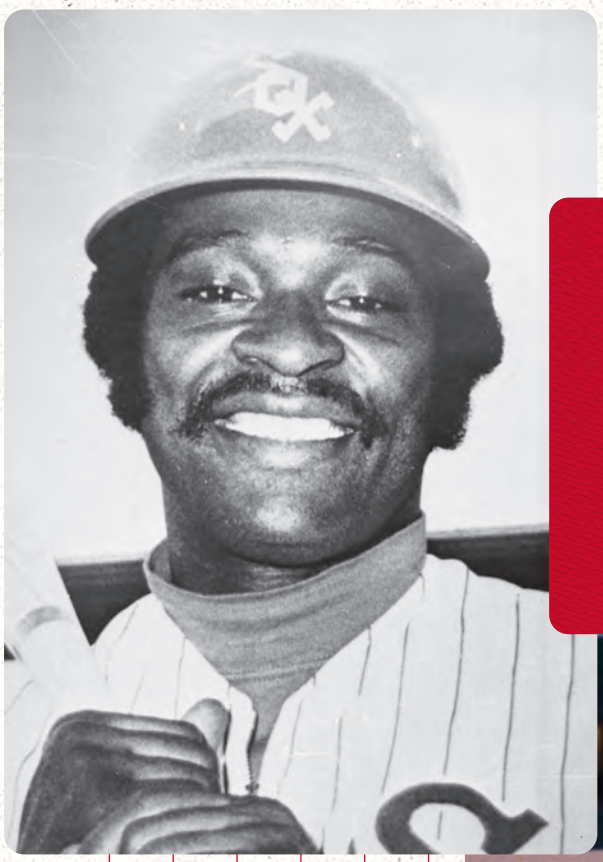
Allen wound up hitting .308 and leading the American League with 37 homers and 113 RBIs. He was the runaway winner of the AL's Most Valuable Player award.

Tanner said, "Dick Allen did more for the White Sox [in 1972] than any player I saw do for his team."

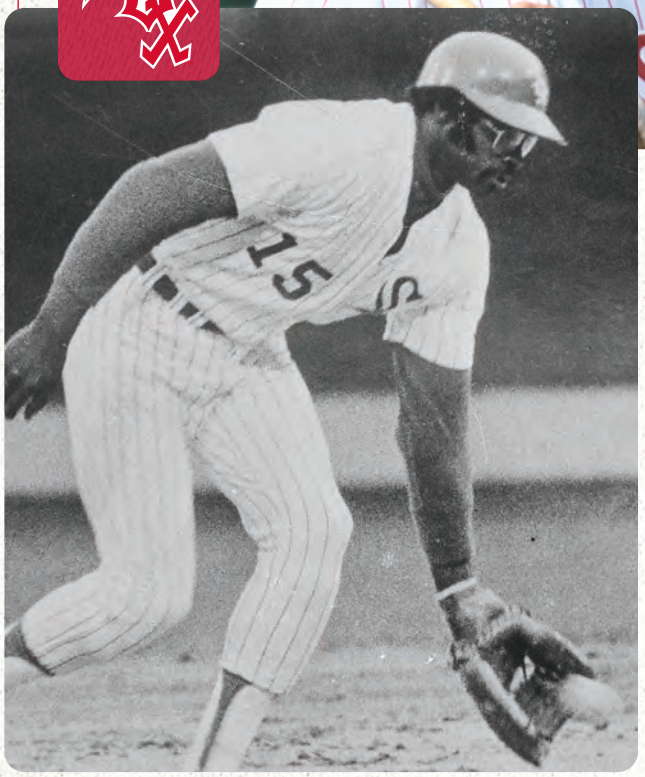
However, Allen always insisted he did not do it by himself. He took several young players under his belt, including a 20-year-old named Rich Gossage. The rookie, who went 7-1 in 1972, said Allen taught him how to pitch from a hitter's perspective. During his Hall of Fame induction in 2008, Gossage referred to Allen as "the greatest player I ever played with."

The Sox starting pitchers also carried a heavy share of the load. Wood, Tom Bradley and Stan Bahnsen made an astounding 132 starts, as Tanner tried to get by mostly using a three-man rotation. Wood (24-17, 2.51 ERA) was runner-up for the Cy Young Award.





"DICK ALLEN DID MORE FOR THE WHITE SOX [IN 1972] THAN ANY PLAYER I SAW DO FOR HIS TEAM."
- CHUCK TANNER



Tanner, who would be named the American League's Manager of the Year, created a positive vibe in the clubhouse that carried onto the field.

"We began to enjoy success together," Allen said in 2012, when the White Sox celebrated the 40th anniversary of that team. "We did more with enthusiasm than we did with experience."

Indeed, on paper, the Sox should have been no match for the A's, who had three future Hall of Famers in Reggie Jackson, Catfish Hunter and Rollie Fingers, and All-Stars in Sal Bando, Joe Rudi and Vida Blue. But not only did the Sox hang with Oakland, they actually were in first place in the West as late as August 28.

The Sox, though, ran out of steam in September and finished the season 87-67, 5 ½ games behind the A's, who would go on to win the first of three straight World Series titles. A back injury limited Melton, who led the AL with 33 homers in 1971, to only 7 homers and 30 RBI in 56 games before being sidelined for the season in June. Hemond always maintained the Sox would have beat Oakland with a healthy Melton.

The 1972 team completely changed the vibe of the Sox in Chicago. They went an amazing 55-23 at home in front of 1,177,318 fans, which ranked third in attendance in the American League.

In 1973, the Sox drew 1,302,527 fans, as they held on to first place for most of May and June. However, a rash of injuries derailed the team. The biggest blow was when Allen broke his leg at the end of June, forcing him to miss the rest of these season.

After leading the American League in homers in 1974, Allen's tenure ended in Chicago. However, his impact on the franchise was immense. At a time when there were doubts about the club's viability in Chicago, Allen and the 1972 team proved fans not only would come to Comiskey Park, they would rock the place. Their legacy laid the foundation for the 1977 "South Side Hitmen," and the 1983 "Winning Ugly" crew, all the way up to the 2005 World Series champions.

When Allen returned for the 2012 reunion, he noted a sign at the ballpark that read "Tradition."

Allen said, "I'd like to think the '72 bunch started that tradition." ■

Allen and the 1972 team proved fans not only would come to Comiskey Park, they would rock the place. Their legacy laid the foundation for the 1977 "South Side Hitmen," and the 1983 "Winning Ugly" crew, all the way up to the 2005 World Series champions.

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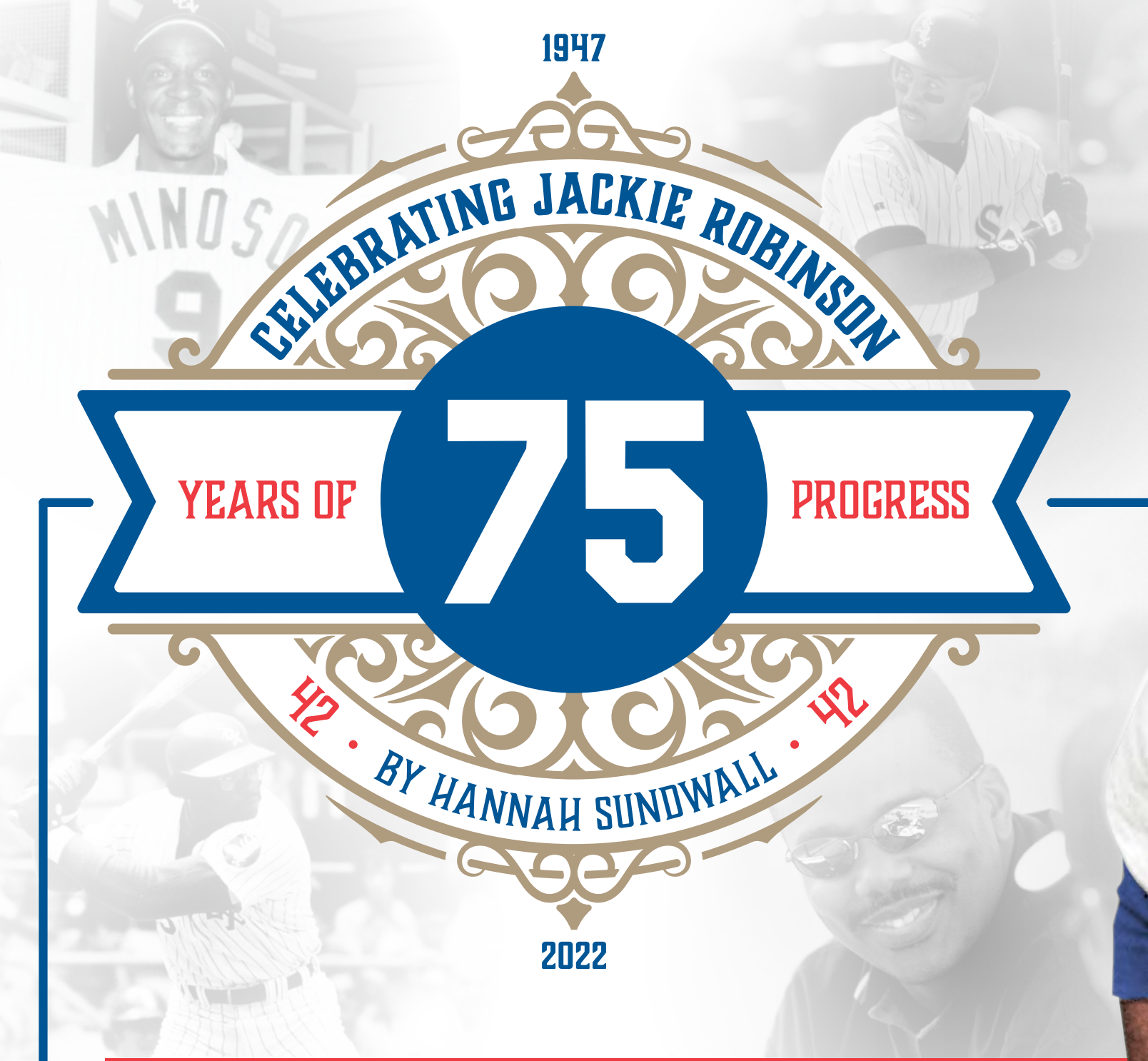


1947

CELEBRATING JACKIE ROBINSON

75 YEARS OF PROGRESS

42 • BY HANNAH SUNDWALL • 42

2022

ON APRIL 15, 2022, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL AND THE WHITE SOX CELEBRATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACKIE ROBINSON BREAKING BASEBALL'S "COLOR BARRIER"

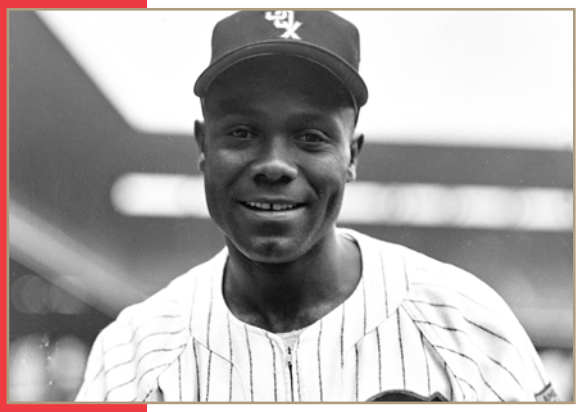
On April 15, 2022, Major League Baseball and the White Sox will celebrate the 75th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking baseball's "color barrier", becoming the first African American player to play in either the National or American Leagues. Robinson dramatically changed the game and his trailblazing helped pave the way for White Sox players and front office members alike.

Jackie Robinson Photos © LA Dodgers

CELEBRATING JACKIE ROBINSON

MIÑOSO

HAIRSTON



BOYD

SMITH

White Sox great and 2022 Hall-of-Fame inductee, Minnie Miñoso was a trailblazer as well, breaking the Sox color barrier on May 1, 1951 as the franchise's first Black player. Miñoso's first at-bat with the Sox was a home run, winning the fans over from the start. In his first season with Chicago, Miñoso recorded a .326 average, 112 runs scored, 14 triples and 31 steals. He finished second in A.L. Rookie of the Year voting, behind Gil McDougald (Yankees). Between 1951 and 1957, Miñoso was named to five All-Star teams, won a Gold Glove Award in 1957 for his performance in the outfield and finished in the top 10 of the A.L. MVP voting four times. At his retirement, Miñoso recorded 2,110 hits, 1,225 runs, 1,093 RBI, 216 stolen bases and a .299 average.

Joining Miñoso on the White Sox in 1951 were Sam Hairston and Bob Boyd, also breaking the color barrier for Chicago. Infielder and catcher, Hairston joined the team on July 21, appearing in four games for the White Sox to become the first African American to play for the Sox with Bob Boyd being added to the roster on September 8, appearing in 12 games during the 1951 season.

White Sox outfielder Al Smith earned a spot on the 1960 All-Star Team, becoming the first Black All-Star in White Sox history. Smith hit .315/.374/.451 with 31 doubles, 12 homers and 72 RBI in 142 games with Chicago.

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75 YEARS OF PROGRESS

At the 1966 First-Year Player Draft, the White Sox selected outfielder Carlos May with the team's first pick. May became the first African American player to be selected by the White Sox in the first round.

Following an impressive 1972 season, Dick Allen earned American League MVP honors, becoming the first Black player in White Sox history to accomplish the feat. Allen recorded career highs in the following categories: home runs (37), RBI (113), walks (99) and OBP (.420).

White Sox Hall of Famer Harold Baines made history, becoming the second African American selected with the first overall pick and first as the number one overall pick in the 1977 First Year Player Draft. Baines was the played 14 seasons with the Sox, batting .288, recording 320 doubles, 44 triples, 221 home runs and 981 RBI.

On June 30, 1978, the White Sox hired Larry Doby as their manager. Doby became the second African American manager in MLB history.

MAY

ALLEN

BAINES

DOBY

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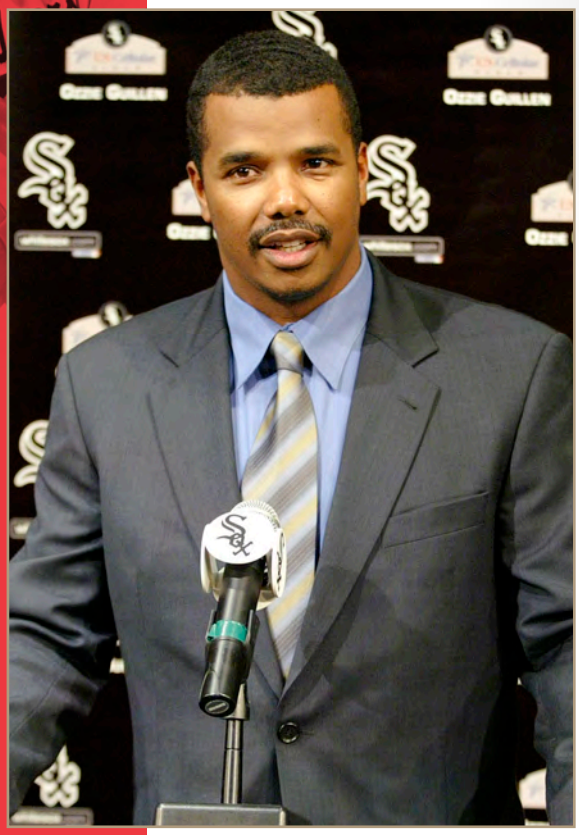
75 YEARS OF PROGRESS

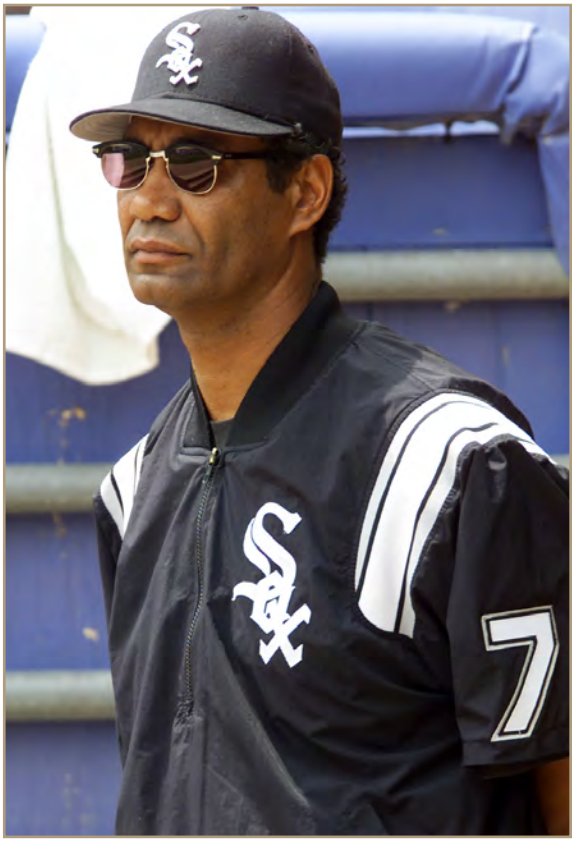
WILLIAMS



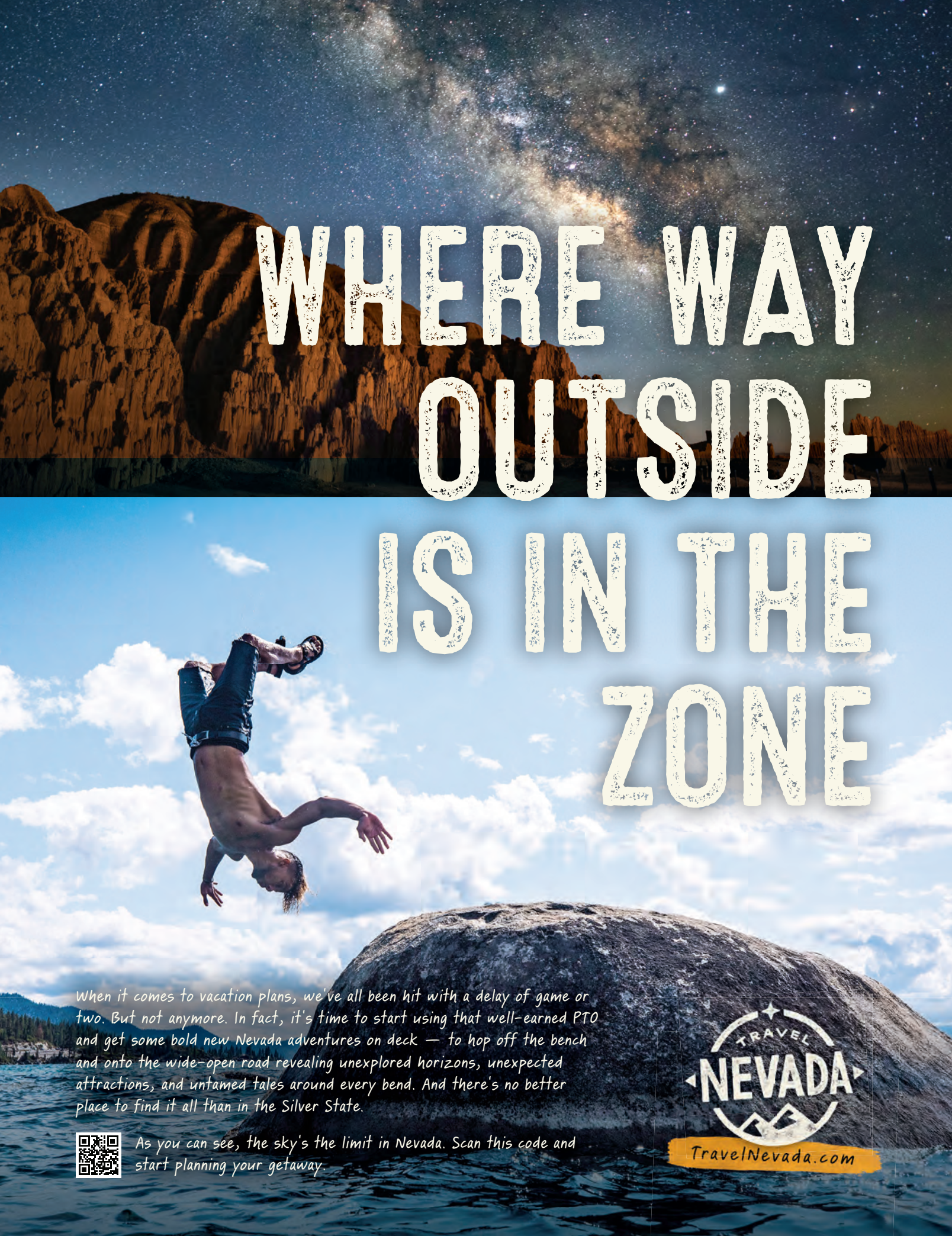
In October of 2000, current Executive Vice President of the White Sox, Ken Williams, was named the first African American general manager in Chicago sports history and the third in MLB history, joining Bill Lucas (Atlanta, 1979) and Bob Watson (Houston, 1994-95 and Yankees, 1996-97). Williams spent 12 seasons as the general manager, winning two division titles with five second-place finishes. Williams led the team to its third World Series win, ending an 88-year drought.

Joining Williams to lead the organization, the White Sox hired Jerry Manuel as manager in 1998. The pair became the first Black general manager/manager tandem in MLB history. In six seasons at the helm, Manuel recorded a 500-471 (.515 winning percentage) record while leading Chicago to the playoffs in 2000, following a 95-67 record. Manuel was named the American League Manager of the Year in 2000.

History at the ballpark is written every day, but these key players and executives accomplished great milestones over the past 70-plus years, paving the way for future stars and future accomplishments yet to be imagined. ●



MANUEL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FROM ROOKIE OF THE YEAR TO MVP

JOSÉ ABREU'S BIGGEST FOCUS REMAINS BECOMING WORLD SERIES CHAMPION

by colin mcgauley

Rich Pilling / Stringer via Getty Images

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FOR CHICAGO WHITE SOX FIRST BASEMAN JOSÉ ABREU,

returning to a third consecutive postseason and competing for a World Series is an opportunity that couldn't be more deserved. If not based on loyalty and leadership, the 2020 American League MVP, who was born in Cienfuegos, Cuba and signed with the Sox in 2014, has put up Hall-of-Fame-worthy stat lines, earning him nearly every accolade short of the coveted title "World Series Champion."

As the season gets underway, here is a look at how the three-time All-Star's contributions on and off the field have helped and will continue to help this team push for postseason glory for years to come.

ACT 1: 2014-2019

THROUGH THICK AND THIN, ABREU UPLIFTS THE STRUGGLING SOX

"We are very excited to add a talent like José to our roster for the next several years," said White Sox General Manager Rick Hahn on signing Abreu in 2014. "His skill set should translate very well to our ballpark, and we expect him to be a part of successful White Sox teams throughout his time in Chicago."

In 2014, the richest deal ever signed by an international free agent may have seemed risky for the struggling Sox. Scouts and national media scrutinized the decision, doubting Abreu's ability to hit major league pitching.

The White Sox thought otherwise.

Hahn's high hopes for the veteran 27-year-old's first season stateside were quicky affirmed. Abreu earned the A.L. Rookie of the Year award, leading all rookies in home runs (36), RBI (107), hits (176), doubles (35), runs scored (80), OBP (.383), slugging percentage (.581) and OPS (.964).

"I don't have any words to describe this moment," Abreu said after his first season of major-league success. "I consider myself a good hitter, and I guess I've proven it."

Additional early career accolades – three Silver Slugger honors and All-Star nods in 2014, 2018 and 2019, among other awards – quickly became a beacon of hope for a struggling White Sox team that hadn't reached the postseason since 2008. Sadly, despite his incredible production, poise and defensive skillset, Abreu's first contract, a six-year tenure on the South Side, would end with consecutive losing seasons.

ACT 2: 2020-PRESENT

ENJOYING THE FRUITS OF HIS LABOR

"Everybody knows that 2019 is going to be the last season of my current contract, but I try not to think about that because I'm part of the White Sox and believe I'm going to be part of this organization for a very long time," said Abreu.

Destined to change a losing narrative into a winning culture, he then doubled down on his remarks.

"I don't want to leave. There's a lot of talent here. I want to stay here. If I was the owner, I would sign myself," Abreu explained just days before signing a three-year contract extension with the club to make him the second longest-tenured player in the organization.

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"YOU SHOULD ENJOY WHAT LIFE GIVES YOU, AND IT IS A VERY SPECIAL MOMENT FOR ME. TO BE ABLE TO SHARE THAT MOMENT WITH MY FAMILY WAS VERY EMOTIONAL AND SPECIAL FOR ME."

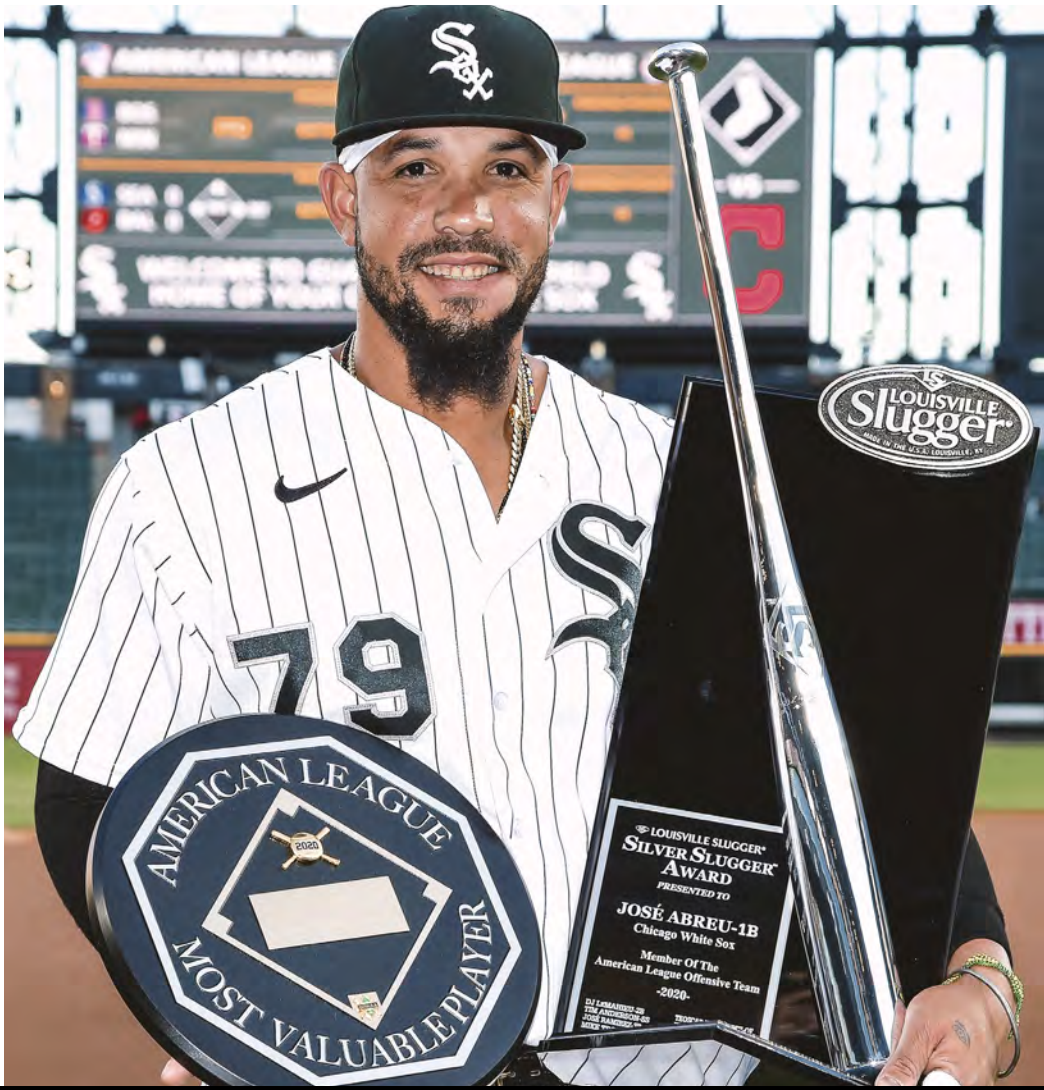
– josé abreu

Almost immediately, his loyalty and perseverance were rewarded. Leading by example, the first baseman and designated hitter earned the title of 2020 AL MVP, joining Frank Thomas (1993-94), Dick Allen (1972) and Nellie Fox (1959) as the fourth White Sox player to win the honor and helping the White Sox to their first postseason berth in a dozen years.

"You can dream about it," Abreu said through interpreter Billy Russo when he was crowned MVP. "You can't imagine the feeling."

"I was super excited to share that moment with my family, with the people that I love," Abreu added. "You should enjoy what life gives you, and it is a very special moment for me. To be able to share that moment with my family was very emotional and special for me."

Abreu and his teammates, who have now competed in back-to-back postseasons, hope their dreams become reality by winning the franchise's fourth World Series championship as soon as 2022.



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A LATIN AMERICAN CONNECTION

It's hard to imagine the White Sox winning a championship without José. It's even harder to imagine making this type of run without the team's core of Latin American players. Sox stars Eloy Jiménez, Yoán Moncada, Luis Robert and even top-rated prospects Yoelqui Céspedes and Oscar Colás are all players who Abreu played an instrumental role in enticing to and mentoring on this championship-caliber ballclub.

"People can't imagine how difficult it is to arrive in an unknown country, entering a culture you don't know about and don't understand and don't speak the same language," Abreu remarked in early 2020.

When he arrived from Cuba, Abreu looked to mentors like "Mr. White Sox" and now Hall of Famer Minnie Miñoso and former Cuban teammates Alexei Ramírez, Dayán Viciedo and Adrián Nieto. As this talented White Sox roster suggests, he has made it his mission to return the favor.

"[José] has always been a person who has liked to help people. When we played together in Cuba with the Elefantes de Cienfuegos, he approached me and gave me advice," his teammate and third baseman Moncada explained. "He was one of the first people to sit down with me and explain how things work. He still gives me advice about how I should do certain things off the field and in our regular life."

"[JOSÉ] HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PERSON WHO HAS LIKED TO HELP PEOPLE."

– yoán moncada

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"ABREU HAS MADE EVERYTHING EASIER FOR ME." – LUIS ROBERT

"HE'S BEEN THERE FOR US EVERY SINGLE DAY, NO MATTER WHAT, NO MATTER HOW HE FEELS." – ELOY JIMÉNEZ

"[HE'S] THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS TEAM." – LUCAS GIOLITO

"HOPEFULLY, I'M GOING TO END MY CAREER AS A WHITE SOX." – JOSÉ ABREU

Young, gifted outfielder and slugging sensation Luis Robert also credits Abreu as the biggest mentor in his early major-league career.

"Being here on this team with Abreu is very satisfying. He's helped me, given advice and told me the things that I have to do to adapt to this country, this culture and this team," said Robert. "When you arrive in a new country and join a new team, it helps to be with people you already know and who know where you come from. Abreu has made everything easier for me."

WINNING IT ALL FOR JOSÉ

Abreu's influence extends far beyond MVP accolades and helping to create the team's Cuban connection. He's a presence every day on and off the field, praised by his teammates and coaches for an unparalleled work ethic and ability to lead by example. Most importantly, he's more than a player who teammates want to win with, he's a player who teammates want to win for.

"That's our leader, man. That's the heart and soul of this team," explains pitcher Lucas Giolito. "He is an amazing guy, amazing player. It's an honor to be teammates with him and to be able to watch him work every day."

"He feels like a dad. He's been there for us every single day, no matter what, no matter how he feels," continued outfielder Eloy Jiménez. "It's really good to have a teammate like that."

Even All-Star shortstop Tim Anderson – another face to this promising franchise and a player making arguably as big of an impact and influence as Abreu – has admired and celebrated being a leader alongside José. When Abreu was up for MVP in 2020, Anderson remarked, "If he wins it, then I win it. We're all on the same team, so it's a win for both of us."

But of all the recent quotes about winning alongside Abreu, the man responsible for bringing him to the White Sox in 2014, summed it up best.

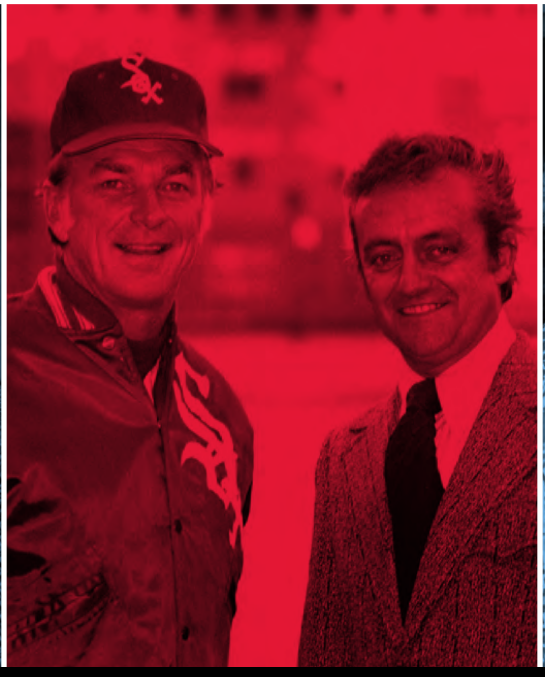
"Frankly, my happiness for a guy like José will come once we're able to present him with a ring, because that's what he deserves based on what he's meant for this organization and his performance on the field," says Hahn. "We certainly look forward to the opportunity to do that in the coming years with him."

Abreu agrees.

"Hopefully, I'm going to end my career as a White Sox. That's my desire. And I'm going to end my career on a good note, winning championships."

marucci
ABREU
79

AIR
A great way of life.



SOX

REMEMBERING ROLAND HEMOND

1929–2021

BY FRED MITCHELL,
AWARD-WINNING SPORTSWRITER FORMERLY OF THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

HIS WORDS ALWAYS WERE MEASURED. HIS ACTIONS WERE PROFOUND AND GENUINE. AND HIS FORMIDABLE BASEBALL LEGACY WILL LAST FOREVER.

THE ENTIRE BASEBALL WORLD IS SADDENED BY THE NEWS OF ROLAND HEMOND'S PASSING AFTER A LONG AND INCREDIBLY IMPACTFUL LIFE

– JERRY REINSDORF

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ROLAND, FROM GENERATIONS OF WHITE SOX FANS, THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!
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Roland Hemond was an iconic baseball lifer who rose from humble job assignments to lofty titles as the result of a relentless work ethic, exceptional people skills and enduring patience.

He touched so many lives and continually enhanced his legacy before passing away at the age of 92 on December 12, 2021, following a 70-year career in the sport he loved. Hemond, born in Central Falls, Rhode Island, won three Executive of the Year awards as the general manager of the Chicago White Sox and Baltimore Orioles. He is credited with founding the Arizona Fall League, which showcases top prospects from all major league organizations.

"The entire baseball world is saddened by the news of Roland Hemond's passing after a long and incredibly impactful life," White Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf said. "Roland began his career in baseball in 1951, and there is not a person in this game over the past 70 years who has not benefited from his judgment, friendship, mentorship and his many creative ideas that forever changed the game of baseball on the field and in the front office. Baseball owes Roland an immense debt of gratitude and its heartfelt thanks.

"The highlight of his time as White Sox general manager certainly came in 1983 with the American League West Division title, the city's first championship since 1963. His champagne-soaked suit from that clinching game still is prominently displayed in our ballpark."

The winner of the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, Hemond also helped form the Professional Baseball Scouts Foundation. Indeed, Roland Hemond, a military veteran of the United States Coast Guard, is the inspiration for three prominent MLB awards: The Baseball America Award, presented to a person who has made significant contributions in scouting; the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) award for the executive who has shown great respect for scouts; and the Roland Hemond Award, given by the White Sox to those who are dedicated to improving the lives of others through extraordinary personal sacrifice.

2011 BUCK O'NEIL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Hemond first joined the White Sox in 1970 as director of player personnel along with field manager Chuck Tanner.

Among the many lives he influenced during his lengthy career was that of longtime baseball executive and Chicago native Ned Colletti. When he was just 15, Colletti happened to run into Hemond in what turned out to be a prophetic encounter.

"My 50-year friendship with Roland began at a Chicago bank," Colletti recalled. "Northwest Federal Savings was located at the corners of Irving Park Road, Cicero Avenue and Milwaukee Avenue. I had a savings account there, and one Saturday afternoon I went to deposit the $15 I had earned that week. I heard that Roland was going to be there in a meet-and-greet. I was 15 years old and Roland was beginning his career as general manager with the White Sox.

"I waited in line and met him for the first time. I told him that even though I was a Cubs fan, I had great respect for anyone who held the position of general manager and that one day I hoped to work in baseball. He thanked me despite my allegiance and encouraged me to follow my dreams and aspirations. 'I am proof,' he said. 'that with hard work, paying attention and with kindness and integrity anything is possible.'

"I never forgot the time he took, nor his message," Colletti added.

"It was 35 years later, on November 15, 2005...I had just been named general manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers. My cell phone was on high alert. Hundreds of texts, emails and phone calls. One of the calls was from Roland. I answered immediately.

""I'm proud to call you and welcome you to a very special group,"' he said. 'And if I can give you one piece of advice, I'd tell you to celebrate everything you can – big or small. Because there will be enough days with crisis management and challenges and disappointments. Don't ever forget to celebrate."'

Colletti began his career with the Chicago Cubs as an assistant media relations director and eventually rose to vice president. He later became assistant general manager of the San Francisco Giants.

'THAT WITH HARD WORK, PAYING ATTENTION AND WITH KINDNESS AND INTEGRITY ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.'

– ROLAND HEMOND

The Dodgers went to the postseason five times in Colletti's nine years (2005-2014) as general manager. After every clinching game came a call from Hemond: "Don't forget to celebrate."

Colletti never forgot.

"I'll always celebrate knowing Roland, and like so many people, calling him a friend," he said.

Hemond influenced so many others with whom he came into contact, including Dan Evans, who served as the White Sox assistant general manager before becoming GM of the Dodgers (2001-2004).

"I knew him for only 21 years, but like many, I felt as if I knew him forever," Evans told the Daily Herald.

Hemond, who also served in executive roles with the Milwaukee Braves (1952-1960), California Angels (1961-1970) and Arizona Diamondbacks (1996-2000 and 2007-2017), also has been credited with mentoring baseball execs Walt Jocketty, Doug Melvin and Dave Dombrowski.

ROLAND HEMOND AWARD

ALL IN
ALL IN
ALL IN

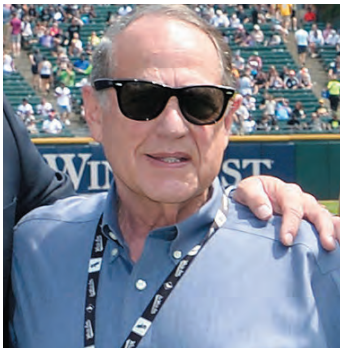
"Roland was my first general manager as a player, and then, years later, was the first person I called when I became general manager of the White Sox," White Sox Executive Vice President Ken Williams said in a statement. "He became my first hire when I asked him to come aboard as an adviser and counselor. Roland did that and more and was an invaluable adviser, confidant and friend as we captured the 2005 World Series."

In fact, during the White Sox sweep of the Houston Astros to win the 2005 World Series, Hemond received the ultimate birthday gift. A unique celebration for the trusted adviser as he turned 76, the White Sox won Game 3 – an epic 7-5 victory in 14 innings that ended in the early hours of October 26 – only to finish off the Astros for the title with a 1-0 win in Game 4 later that evening.

While all of the accomplishments in his highly decorated career help to define Hemond's impact on the game of baseball, the most enduring memory for all who had the good fortune to know him was how well he respected and treated other people.

Jerry Reinsdorf

CHAIRMAN



Jerry Reinsdorf begins his 42nd season as chairman of the Chicago White Sox in 2022, only the seventh individual in Major League Baseball history to reach the 40-year milestone as a club owner (Connie Mack holds the mark with 50 seasons in leadership of the Philadelphia A's).

During his time as chairman, Reinsdorf's two professional sports teams – the White Sox and the NBA's Chicago Bulls – have delivered seven World Championship titles to the city of Chicago and its fans. Reinsdorf accepted the Commissioner's Trophy from Bud Selig on October 26, 2005, after the White Sox swept their way to the team's first World Series Championship since 1917. The championship was celebrated by a ticker-tape parade attended by nearly 2 million Chicagoans.

The White Sox have reached the postseason seven times during Reinsdorf's tenure, most recently in 2021 when the team captured the American League Central title to reach the postseason in successive seasons for the first time in franchise history. The Sox also captured division titles in 1983, 1993, 2000, 2005 and 2008, as well as claiming a wild card berth in 2020. Every one of the club's Top 20 single-season attendance totals have come since 1981, including a franchise-record 2.95 million fans in 2006.

Reinsdorf and the White Sox have received four prestigious honors in recognition of the franchise's ongoing commitment to giving back to the community. In June 2011, Reinsdorf traveled to Washington D.C. to accept the Jefferson Award, one of the nation's top honors for community service and volunteerism, known as the "Nobel Prize for Public Service." In August 2011, Reinsdorf received the Barnes and Thornburg Jackie Robinson Award for diversity in the workplace, and in November 2011, Reinsdorf and the White Sox were honored by Commissioner Bud Selig with the Commissioner's Award for Philanthropic Excellence for the club's Volunteer Corps. In September 2012, Reinsdorf and the White Sox were again recognized nationally, receiving the Steve Patterson Award for Excellence in sports philanthropy for the team's Volunteer Corps program. Reinsdorf's life-long support for charitable and community organizations has resulted in numerous other awards and recognitions.

In response to President Barack Obama's call to service in 2009, Reinsdorf and the White Sox created the White Sox Volunteer Corps to support the Chicagoland community through service. The Corps, now consisting of staff, players and more than 5,000 fan volunteers, has mobilized to provide more than 55,000 hours of community service during its 13 years of existence, including work renovating Chicago Public Schools, remodeling local Boys & Girls Clubs and donating time at the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

Both of Reinsdorf's sports franchises have donated millions of dollars to causes in the Chicago community through a variety of efforts, including Chicago White Sox Charities and Chicago Bulls Charities. Chicago White Sox Charities has donated more than $38 million to worthy Chicagoland organizations in cumulative giving since its inception. In 2015, the Chicago Bulls received honors as the inaugural ESPN Sports Humanitarian Team of the Year, and in 2017, the White Sox were finalists for the same award, which celebrates and recognizes how members of the sports industry use sport to serve their communities and make a positive impact. In December 2017, owners for five Chicago sports teams – the Bears, Blackhawks, Bulls, Cubs and White Sox – joined together as the Chicago Sports Alliance to donate $1 million annually to the UChicago Crime Lab and other worthy programs in an ongoing effort to support solutions to the violence that plagues some neighborhoods in Chicago.

Reinsdorf and the White Sox created the Amateur City Elite (ACE) youth baseball program in 2007. Sponsored by Chicago White Sox Charities, ACE provides urban-based and largely minority youth the opportunity to play in a high-quality travel baseball program. In its 15 years, ACE has produced 30 draft selections, while over 230 ACE players have signed scholarships to play college baseball. ACE alums have won NCAA Championships and have been drafted as high as the first round (fifth pick overall).

In recognition of his life-long commitment to promoting diversity, Reinsdorf's White Sox hosted Major League Baseball's 2013 Diversity Summit in Chicago, and the franchise also was chosen to host MLB's Civil Rights Game and Beacon Awards Luncheon in August 2014.

Since heading the limited partnership that purchased the White Sox in January 1981, Reinsdorf has been involved in Major League Baseball initiatives at an industry-wide level. He has served on the Commissioner's Executive Council and many other committees, including Player Relations, Relocation, Ownership & Legislative, Business and Media Board and Long-Range Labor Planning.

Reinsdorf was instrumental in the formation of the Diverse Business Partners (DBP) Program in 1998, and Major League Baseball honored Reinsdorf and the White Sox with the Club Appreciation Award in 2018 to celebrate the program's 20th anniversary. Over the past 20-plus years, Major League Baseball and its clubs have purchased hundreds of millions of dollars in goods and services from minority and women-owned businesses, and the White Sox annually rank among baseball's leaders in the DBP program.

In 2008, his long history of donating time to Major League Baseball led to Reinsdorf being asked to serve on the Board of The Baseball Hall of Fame. Frank Thomas and Tony La Russa were inducted as members of the Hall of Fame's Class of 2014, Tim Raines in 2017, Jim Thome in 2018, Harold Baines in 2019, and Ken "Hawk" Harrelson was honored with the Ford C. Frick Award for broadcasting excellence in 2020. Longtime White Sox great Minnie Minoso will be inducted in July 2022 after being elected by an Eras Committee vote last December.

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Ken Williams

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Ken Williams begins his 41st season in professional baseball in 2022 and his 10th as executive vice president of the White Sox after being promoted to the position in October 2012. In his current role, Williams has increased the scope and range of his involvement with the club while continuing to maintain oversight and final approval on major baseball decisions. He also attends Major League Baseball owners' meetings on the club's behalf where he has been among the leading voices for diversity in the game.

The White Sox have now reached postseason in successive seasons for the first time in franchise history after the 2021 Sox captured the American League Central title by 13.0 games, going 93-69 (.574). The 2021 season marked the fifth trip to the postseason for Williams with the White Sox, joining the division-winning team in 2000, when he served as vice president of player development, the 2005 World Series Champions and the 2008 A.L. Central division winners, when he was the club's general manager, as well as the 2020 White Sox, who went 35-25 (.583) during the Covid-19 shortened 60-game season, earning an A.L. Wild Card postseason spot.

Williams is the highest-ranking African American executive for a Major League Baseball team, and at the end of 2022 he will become the longest tenured African American to lead a major sports team in U.S. sports history (surpassing Elgin Baylor of the NBA's Los Angeles Clippers and Ozzie Newsome of the NFL's Baltimore Ravens).

During his time as head of the White Sox Baseball Operations Department, Williams has experienced a Most Valuable Player Award winner (José Abreu in 2020), the Mariano Rivera Reliever of the Year (Liam Hendriks in 2021), a Manager of the Year (Ozzie Guillén in 2005), an Executive of the Year winner (Rick Hahn in 2020), two A.L. Rookie of the Year winners (Gordon Beckham in 2009 and Abreu in 2014), three Comeback Player of the Year recipients, 12 Silver Slugger honorees and seven Gold Glove Award winners.

Williams spent 12 seasons (2001-12) as the White Sox general manager, winning two division titles with five second-place finishes. The club finished .500 or better nine times, going 1,014-931 (.521) over his 12 seasons, the best winning percentage in franchise history. Williams capped his fifth season as general manager in 2005 by winning the third World Series title in White Sox history and the first since 1917, ending an 88-year drought. The 2005 World Champion White Sox became just the second team in major-league history to lead its division wire-to-wire and sweep the World Series in four games. The other was the 1927 Yankees. The Sox were 11-1 in postseason play, winning their final eight games.

During his tenure as general manager, Williams acquired 171 players in 72 trades involving the major-league roster. His teams included four Cuban players, José Contreras, Orlando Hernández (2005), Alexei Ramírez (2008-15) and Dayan Viciedo (2010-14), and two Japanese players (Iguchi and Shingo Takatsu).

Williams was the first African-American general manager in Chicago sports history and the third in major-league history, following Bill Lucas (Atlanta, 1979) and Bob Watson (Houston, 1994-95/Yankees, 1996-97). From 2001-03, Williams and Jerry Manuel formed the first African American general manager/manager tandem in major-league history. He has received multiple Trailblazer Awards from the Rainbow PUSH Coalition and The Chicago Urban League for his efforts to promote diversity, and was honored at the McDonald's 365Black Awards as one of the nation's history makers of today and tomorrow.

Williams has spent four-plus decades in baseball in various capacities: player, scout, director of minor league operations, special assistant to the chairman, vice president of player development and general manager. He joined the front office in November 1992 as a scout, specializing in the inner cities, and was named special assistant to Jerry Reinsdorf in 1994. He served as director of minor-league operations from 1995-96 and vice president of player development from 1997-2000. Under his direction, the Sox were named 2000 Organization of the Year by Baseball America and USA Today.

Active in the organization's community outreach programs, Williams takes part in the annual "Double Duty Classic" at the ballpark, speaking to young amateur baseball players about their role in the history of the sport. Williams supports the team's Amateur City Elite (ACE) youth baseball program, which has had 30 players drafted and over 200 players sign college scholarships to play baseball since it began in 2007. In 2013, he was named to MLB's Diversity Committee, an 18-member task force given the objective of increasing diversity in the game, particularly among black players.

Williams has spoken publicly about the need and value of diversity in baseball front offices, and also has served on panels alongside such notables as Martin Luther King III, Attalla Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X, Sharon Robinson, Charles Ogletree, Hank Aaron and Frank Robinson.

Williams has been active in the team's "Becoming A Man" program, an initiative aimed at teaching young, at-risk men how to resolve conflict in a non-violent manner. The BAM program was recognized by President Barack Obama for its positive impact on the fight against urban violence. Williams also met with members of the READI program as part of the Chicago Sports Alliance's efforts to prevent gun violence.

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Rick Hahn

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/ GENERAL MANAGER

Rick Hahn begins his 10th season as White Sox general manager in 2022 with the team aiming to reach the postseason for the third consecutive season after winning the American League Central title in 2021 and claiming a Wild Card spot in 2020. The 2021 White Sox accomplished a franchise first, reaching the postseason in consecutive seasons. It was the franchise's first division title since 2008 and fifth since 1969.

The 2021 Sox, who spent 152 days in first place including every day after May 7, had four pitchers receive Cy Young Award votes, featured RHP Liam Hendriks, who received the Mariano Rivera A.L. Relief Pitcher of the Year Award after leading the league in saves, and had eight different first-round draft picks contribute during the course of the 93-win season. SS Tim Anderson, the organization's first-round pick in 2013, Hendriks, RHP Lance Lynn and LHP Carlos Rodón were named to the A.L. All-Star team.

Hahn was named the 2020 Sporting News Major League Baseball Executive of the Year in a vote by executives across Major League Baseball, joining Roland Hemond (1972) and Bill Veeck (1977) as the only White Sox executives to receive the honor, which was first awarded in 1936.

This offseason the White Sox added RHP Kendall Graveman, RHP Joe Kelly and two-time All-Star INF Josh Harrison, while Hahn also continued the organization's long-standing connection to Cuba, signing international free agents OF Oscar Colas and RHP Norge Vera. Prior to 2020, the Sox acquired Lynn, added free agent Cuban OF Yoelqui Céspedes, and signed Hendriks to a four-year, $54-million contract. The White Sox signed Lynn, who finished third in Cy Young Award voting, to a two-year, $38-million extension with a club option for 2024, in July 2021.

The 2020 White Sox featured the A.L. Most Valuable Player in Abreu, runner-up for A.L. Rookie of the Year and Gold Glove-winning CF Luis Robert, three Silver Slugger Award winners in Abreu (1B), Anderson (SS) and OF Eloy Jiménez. Abreu is just the fourth White Sox player (fifth time) to earn MVP honors, joining 2B Nellie Fox (1959), 1B Dick Allen (1972) and 1B Frank Thomas (1993-94).

The White Sox agreed to a contract extension with Robert in January 2020, continuing a long-standing desire to reach agreements with players viewed as core parts of the team's future. The Sox agreed with Jimenéz in 2019 and have a history of similar deals with Anderson, LHP Aaron Bummer, LHP José Quintana, LHP Chris Sale, LHP Mark Buehrle, 1B Paul Konerko and many others. The agreements with Jiménez and Robert were noteworthy as each came prior to the player's major-league debut. In November 2019, Hahn signed free agent C Yasmani Grandal to a four-year, $73-million contract, the largest in franchise history.

Hahn has added a number of talented prospects to the organization since 2016, including 3B Yoán Moncada, Baseball America's 2016 Minor League Player of the Year, and RHP Michael Kopech in a trade with the Boston Red Sox, and Giolito from the Washington Nationals in a multiplayer deal. During the 2017 season, Hahn acquired Jiménez, who topped A.L. rookies with 31 home runs in 2019, and RHP Dylan Cease, 2018 MLB Pipeline Pitcher of the Year, from the Chicago Cubs.

Nine of Hahn's 10 first-round picks as general manager have reached the majors, while eight contributed to the 2021 division championship team. Anderson (2013), Rodón (2014), RHP Carson Fulmer (2015), C Zack Collins (2016), RHP Zack Burdi (2016), 3B Jake Burger (2017), 2B Nick Madrigal (2018), OF Andrew Vaughn (2019) and Garrett Crochet (2020) have already appeared with the White Sox. High school SS Colson Montgomery, taken 22nd overall by the Sox in July 2021, begins this season at Class A.

Hahn joined the organization in October 2000 and helped build the 2005 World Series Champion and 2008 postseason teams as assistant general manager to White Sox executive vice president Ken Williams. The Chicago-area native was promoted to senior vice president/general manager in October 2012, and his duties now include oversight of all player personnel matters, coaching staff decisions and the club's player development and scouting operations. During his 12 seasons as vice president/assistant general manager, Hahn worked with Williams on roster composition, player acquisitions, talent evaluations and contract negotiations.

Hahn is active in the organization's community outreach efforts as he has met with the organization's Amateur City Elite (ACE) youth baseball teams and volunteered his time serving meals to families at the Ronald McDonald House in downtown Chicago.

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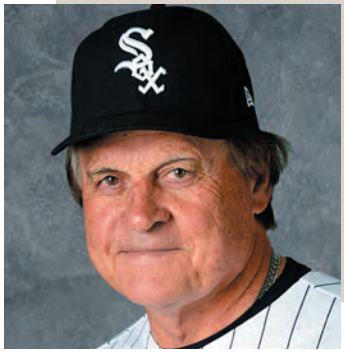
Tony La Russa

MANAGER | #22



Tony La Russa begins his 61st season in professional baseball and the second season of his second stint as White Sox manager. He was named White Sox manager for the second time on October 29, 2020. He completed his first tenure with the Sox from 1979-86 with a 522-510 (.506) record and ranks fourth in franchise history in games managed (1,197) and victories (615). La Russa's 2,821 career victories rank second in MLB history, trailing only Hall-of-Famer Connie Mack (3,731). He is the third person to manage the White Sox twice, joining Nixey Callahan (1903-04, 1912-14) and Paul Richards (1951-54, 1976). His 1983 White Sox won 99 games and the American League West title, the franchise's first championship since 1959. La Russa served as an executive with MLB (2012-13), the Arizona Diamondbacks (2014-17), Boston Red Sox (2017-19) and Los Angeles Angels (2019-2020) after retiring as a manager following a World Series championship with St. Louis in 2011.

He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York on July 27, 2014 after being unanimously elected by the 16-member Veterans Committee on December 9, 2013. In 33 seasons as a major-league manager, he has gone 2,728-2,365 (.536) in 5,097 career games with the White Sox (1979-86), Oakland (1986-95), and St. Louis (1996-2011). His 2,728 career wins rank third all-time in MLB history, trailing only Hall-of-Famers Connie Mack (3,731) and John McGraw (2,763). His 5,097 games managed rank second in MLB history behind Mack (7,755).

La Russa's teams have won 100 or more games four times, have made 15 postseason appearances and have won 13 division titles, six pennants and three World Series championships (1989 with Oakland; 2006 and 2011 with St. Louis). He owns a 71-61 (.538) record in the postseason and his 71 wins rank second in MLB history behind Joe Torre (84).

He was named Manager of the Year in 1983, 1988, 1992 and 2002, one of four managers to receive the honor in each league. La Russa managed the A.L. All-Star Team in 1989-91 and the N.L. All-Stars in 2005, 2007 and 2012 (retired), compiling a 4-2 record. He has managed 11 Hall of Famers, four Most Valuable Players and four Cy Young Winners.

As a player, La Russa signed his first professional contract with the Kansas City Athletics on the night he graduated from Jefferson High School in Tampa, Florida in 1962. He made his major-league debut as a pinch runner on May 10, 1963 at Minnesota and recorded his first hit on August 17, 1963 vs. Baltimore, a pinch triple off Steve Barber. He played in 132 major league games over parts of six seasons with the Kansas City Athletics (1963), Oakland Athletics (1968-71), Atlanta Braves (1971) and Chicago Cubs (1973). He was a player/coach with Class AAA New Orleans in the St. Louis organization in 1977, his final season as player.

La Russa and his wife, Elaine, co-founded the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF), which saves abandoned and injured animals and runs programs to unite dogs and cats with abused children, hospital patients, seniors, shut-ins and others in need of animal companionship.

TOM BAFIA
Assistant Home Clubhouse Manager

ED CASSIN
Director, Team Travel

JOSH FALLIN
Assistant Trainer

JASON GILLIAM
Visiting Clubhouse Manager

JAMES KRUK
Head Trainer

JESSICA LABUNSKI
Massage Therapist

JOE MCNAMARA, JR.
Umpires Clubhouse Manager

IBRAHIM RIVERA
Assistant, Conditioning

BRETT WALKER
Director, Rehabilitation

ROB WARREN
Home Clubhouse Manager

Daryl Boston

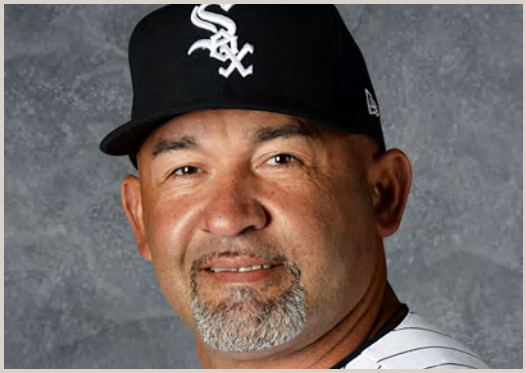
FIRST BASE COACH | #8

Daryl Boston returns for his 10th season as the White Sox first base coach after spending 12 seasons as the Sox minor league outfield instructor. Boston also served as the hitting coach in three consecutive years for Advanced Rookie Bristol (1998) and Class A Burlington (1999), helping each team win its respective title, and Class A Winston-Salem (2000). A career .249 (655-2,629) hitter with 83 home runs, 278 RBI and 98 stolen bases in 1,058 games, he spent his first seven seasons with the White Sox (1984-90) before playing for the Mets (1990-92), Rockies (1993) and the Yankees (1994).

Miguel Cairo

BENCH COACH | #41

Miguel Cairo enters his second season as White Sox bench coach. Prior to joining the White Sox organization, he spent three seasons (2018-20) as the infield coordinator in the New York Yankees minor-league system. He worked as a special assistant to Cincinnati Reds general managers Walt Jocketty and Dick Williams from 2013-17, following his retirement as a player. As a player, Cairo played 17 seasons in the major leagues with Toronto (1996), the Cubs (1997, '01), Tampa Bay (1998-2000), St. Louis (2001-03, '07), the Yankees (2004, '06-07), Mets (2005), Seattle (2008), Philadelphia (2009) and Cincinnati (2010-12).



Howie Clark

ASSISTANT HITTING COACH | #37

Howie Clark enters his third season in the White Sox organization and his second as an assistant hitting coach with the White Sox. He was slated to serve as the Class AAA Charlotte hitting coach in 2020 before the season was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He worked as the hitting coach at the Sox alternate training site in Schaumburg, Illinois in 2020. Prior to joining the White Sox, Clark served as the assistant hitting coach with the Baltimore Orioles from 2017-19, where seven Orioles hit 20-plus home runs in 2017, among the players he coached were Chris Davis, J.J. Hardy, Adam Jones, Manny Machado, Jonathan Schoop, and Mark Trumbo. He also served as the hitting coach at Class A Delmarva in 2015 and Class AA Bowie in 2016. Clark played in 134 career games with Baltimore (2002, '06) , Toronto (2003-04, '07) and Minnesota (2008).

Curt Hasler

BULLPEN COACH | #29

Curt Hasler begins his 32nd season as a pitching coach in the White Sox organization and his sixth as the major-league bullpen coach. He spent six seasons (2011-16) as the White Sox minor-league pitching coordinator. During his tenure with the Sox, he helped oversee the development of minor leaguers Chad Bradford, Mark Buehrle, Josh Fogg, Matt Guerrier, Boone Logan and Dan Wright. He also served as pitching coach with Class AA Birmingham in 2001 and oversaw the first Opening Night no-hitter in Southern League history on April 5, 2011, vs. Tennessee. Hasler pitched in the White Sox organization from 1987-91. He was selected by the Sox in the 21st round of the 1987 draft. His son, Drew, is a pitching coach for the Arizona Rookie League White Sox.

Ethan Katz

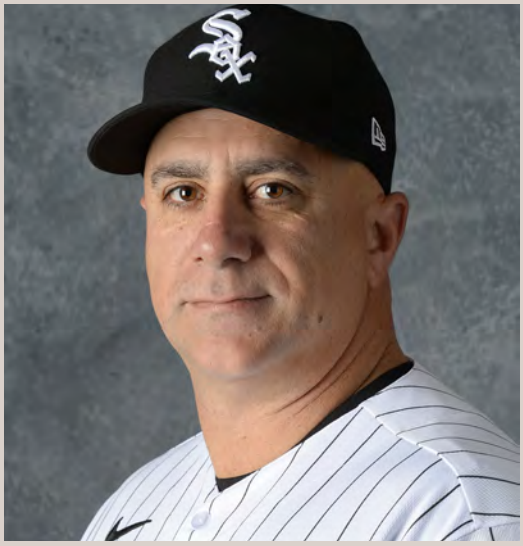
PITCHING COACH | #52

Ethan Katz enters his second season as the White Sox pitching coach. In 2021, the White Sox posted a 3.73 ERA (581 ER/1,403.1 IP), second-best in the American League and their lowest since 2005 (3.61). The team also led the A.L. in numerous categories, including strikeouts (1,588), strikeouts per 9.0 IP (10.18), opponents OPS (.679), starters ERA (3.57) and starters strikeouts (944). He spent the 2020 season as the assistant pitching coach for the San Francisco Giants under manager Gabe Kapler after serving as the organization's assistant pitching coordinator in 2019. Prior to joining the Giants, Katz was a pitching coach in the Seattle Mariners organization from 2016-19 and spent the 2017-18 seasons at Class AA Arkansas in the Texas Langue and 2016 at Class A Bakersfield in the California League. He began his coaching career in the Los Angeles Angels minor-league system, serving as pitching coach at Class A Burlington in the Midwest League from 2014-15 and with the Arizona League Angels in 2013. Katz was at Harvard-Westlake from September 2009-July 2013, where he worked with White Sox All-Star, RHP Lucas Giolito, LHP Max Fried (Atlanta) and RHP Jack Flaherty (St. Louis). He also worked as the pitching coach for the LaCrosse, Wisconsin Loggers in the collegiate wood-bat Northwoods League during the summers of 2011 and 2012. Katz pitched in the Colorado Rockies organization from 2005-08 and spent the 2009 season pitching in Canada for Victoria of the independent Golden Baseball League.

Joe McEwing

THIRD BASE COACH | #47

Joe McEwing begins his 16th season in the White Sox organization and his 11th as a coach on the major-league staff. He begins his second stint as the Sox third base coach (also 2012-16) after serving as the bench coach from 2017-20 under former manager Rick Renteria. Prior to joining the White Sox coaching staff in 2012, McEwing spent three seasons as a manager in the White Sox minor-league system, compiling a .531 (223-197) winning percentage. He also worked at Class AAA Charlotte (2011) and Class A Winston-Salem (2009-10), where he was named Carolina League Manager of the Year in both of his seasons after guiding the Dash to a pair of postseason berths. He played professionally for 16 seasons, including nine in the major leagues with St. Louis (1998-99), New York-N.L. (2000-04), Kansas City (2005) and Houston (2006).



Frank Menechino

HITTING COACH | #26

Frank Menechino enters his third season as the White Sox hitting coach and fourth in the organization after serving in the same capacity with Class AAA Charlotte in 2019. In 2021, the White Sox ranked among the American League leaders in on-base percentage (2nd, .336), walks (2nd, 586), average (4th, .256), OPS (4th, .758, runs scored (5th, 796) and slugging percentage (6th, .422) . José Abreu was named 2020 A.L. Most Valuable Player by the BBWAA. Abreu, Tim Anderson, and Eloy Jiménez each earned A.L. Silver Slugger awards. The White Sox led the A.L. with 96 home runs, a franchise record through 60 games, slugging percentage (.453) and run differential (+60) and ranked second in average (.261), runs scored (306) and OPS (.779). The White Sox went 14-0 vs. left-handed starters, becoming the first team in MLB history to go undefeated during an entire season against either handed starters (STATS). Menechino spent five seasons (2014-18) on the Miami Marlins major-league staff, including three as the assistant hitting coach (2014-16) and two (2017-18) as the hitting coach. He played seven seasons in the major leagues as an infielder with Oakland (1999-2004) and Toronto (2004-05).

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2 NELLIE FOX, 2B
NUMBER RETIRED: 1976

Played 14 seasons with the White Sox…named American League Most Valuable Player in 1959…led AL in hits in 1952, '54, '57 and '58…a three-time Gold Glove winner (1957, '59 and '60)…a 12-time All-Star…elected to the Hall of Fame in 1997. Life-sized sculpture unveiled at ballpark in 2006.

3 HAROLD BAINES, DH/OF
NUMBER RETIRED: 1989

Had three stints with the White Sox (1980-89, '96-97, 2000-01)…ranks third in club history in home runs (221) and fourth in RBI (981)…hit 20 or more home runs for the White Sox seven times (1982-87, '96)…drove in winning run as White Sox clinched 1983 division title. Elected to the Hall of Fame in 2019. Life-sized sculpture unveiled at ballpark in 2008.

4 LUKE APPLING, SS
NUMBER RETIRED: 1975

Played all 20 seasons with the White Sox…elected to the Hall of Fame in 1964…is White Sox all-time leader in games (2,422), at-bats (8,856) and hits (2,749)…ranks second in club history in doubles (440), runs (1,319) and walks (1,302).

9 MINNIE MINOSO, OF/INF/DH
NUMBER RETIRED: 1983

Played 12 seasons with the White Sox over five separate stints…a seven-time All-Star…led AL in stolen bases from 1951-53…batted .300 eight times…was *The Sporting News* Rookie of the Year in 1951. Life-sized sculpture unveiled at the ballpark in 2004.

11 LUIS APARICIO, SS
NUMBER RETIRED: 1984

Played 10 seasons with the White Sox…elected to the Hall of Fame in 1984…named American League Rookie of the Year in 1956…collected nine Gold Glove Awards, third-most all-time among shortstops…a 10-time All-Star…ranks second in club history in stolen bases (318). Life-sized sculpture was unveiled at the ballpark in 2006.

14 PAUL KONERKO, 1B/DH
NUMBER RETIRED: 2015

Played 16 seasons with the White Sox…ranks first in club history in total bases (4,010)…ranks among White Sox leaders in virtually every offensive category, including: home runs (2nd, 432) hits (3rd, 2,292), and doubles (3rd, 406)…2005 American League Championship Series MVP…2005 World Series Champion…a six-time American League All-Star…first White Sox player to receive the Roberto Clemente Award (2014). Life-sized sculpture unveiled at ballpark in 2014.

16 TED LYONS, P
NUMBER RETIRED: 1987

Played 21 seasons with the White Sox…elected to the Hall of Fame in 1955…owned a career record of 260-230…led the American League in wins in 1925 (21) and 1927 (22)…managed the White Sox from 1946-48.

19 BILLY PIERCE, P
NUMBER RETIRED: 1987

Played 13 seasons with the White Sox…led American League in strikeouts in 1953 (186), ERA in 1955 (1.97) and wins in 1957 (20)…seven-time All-Star and the first White Sox pitcher to start an All-Star Game (1953, '55 and '56). Life-sized sculpture unveiled at ballpark in 2007.

35 FRANK THOMAS, 1B/DH
NUMBER RETIRED: 2010

Played 16 seasons with the White Sox…elected to the Hall of Fame on January 8, 2014…named American League Most Valuable Player in 1993 and 1994…ranks first in club history in home runs (448), extra-base hits (906), doubles (447), walks (1,466), runs (1,327), RBI (1,465), slugging percentage (.568) and on-base percentage (.427)…a five-time All-Star…one of four players in baseball history to have a .300 average with 500 home runs, 1,500 RBI, 1,000 runs scored and 1,500 walks in his career…a four-time Silver Slugger Award winner (1991, '93-94, 2000). Life-sized sculpture unveiled at ballpark in 2011.

56 MARK BUEHRLE, P
NUMBER RETIRED: 2017

Drafted by the Sox in 1998… played 12 seasons with the White Sox…ranks among franchise leaders in strikeouts (4th, 1,396), starts (4th, 365), quality starts (4th, 231), wins (6th, 161), strikeout-to-walk ratio (7th, 2.48), innings pitched (7th, 2,476.2) and games pitched (8th, 390)…a five-time All-Star…collected four Gold Glove Awards…threw a no-hitter in 2007 and a perfect game in 2009…made four appearances during the 2005 World Series run, pitching a complete game in Game 2 of the ALCS and earning the save in Game 3 of the World Series.

72 CARLTON FISK, C
NUMBER RETIRED: 1997

Played 13 seasons with the White Sox…ranks second in MLB history in games caught (2,226) and home runs by a catcher (351)…elected to the Hall of Fame in 2000. Life-sized sculpture was unveiled at the ballpark in 2005.

JACKIE ROBINSON, INF/OF
NUMBER RETIRED: 1997

On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African American to play Major League Baseball when he started at first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers…50 years later his number was retired by all Major League clubs as his legacy was celebrated throughout the 1997 season…his 10-year career included a batting title (1949) and twice leading the league in stolen bases (1947, '49)…a track, basketball, football and baseball star at UCLA, Robinson also played in the Negro Leagues for two years prior to being signed by Branch Rickey in 1945.

42

chicago

CENTRAL CHAMPIONS | 99-69

JOSÉ ABREU

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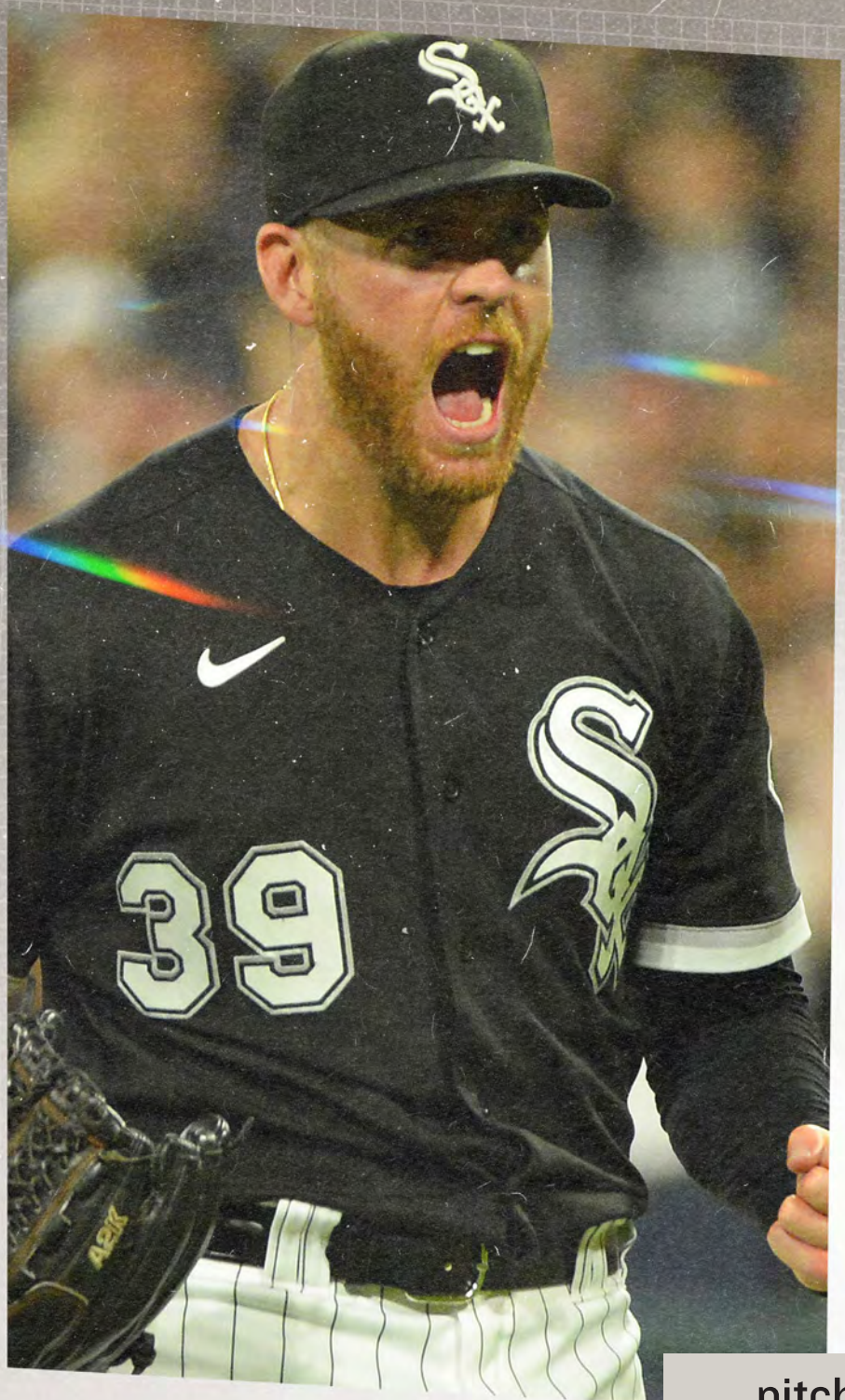
AARON 39 RUMMER



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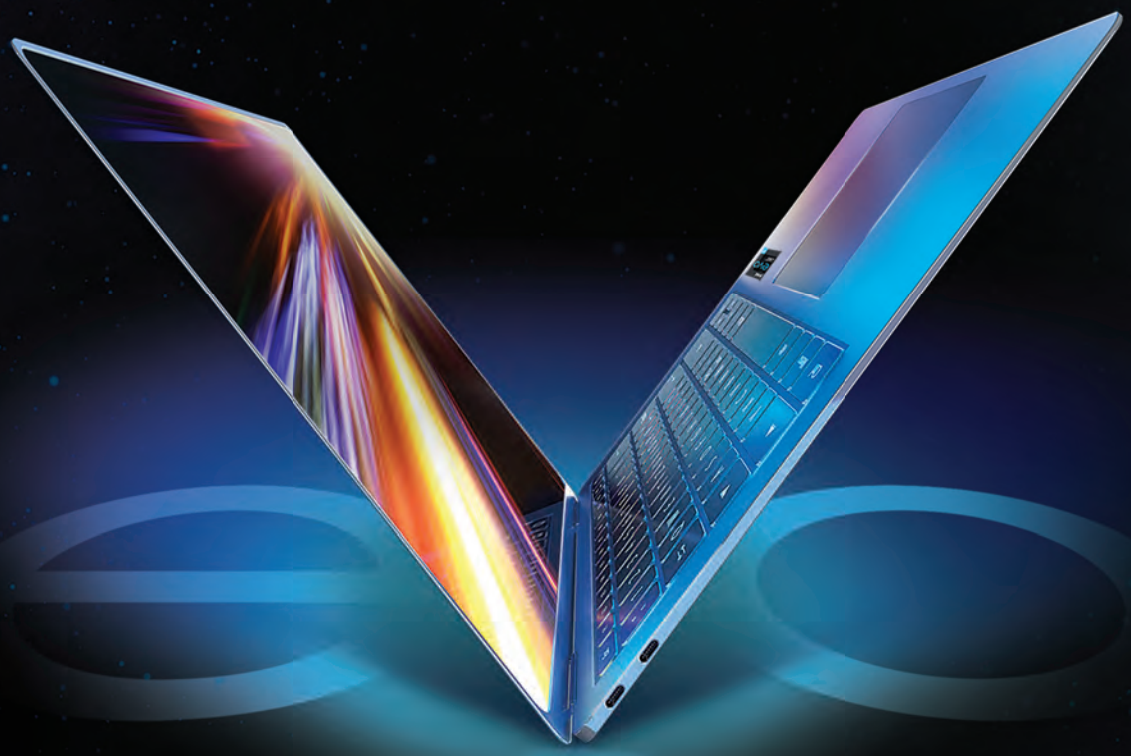

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RYAN BURR

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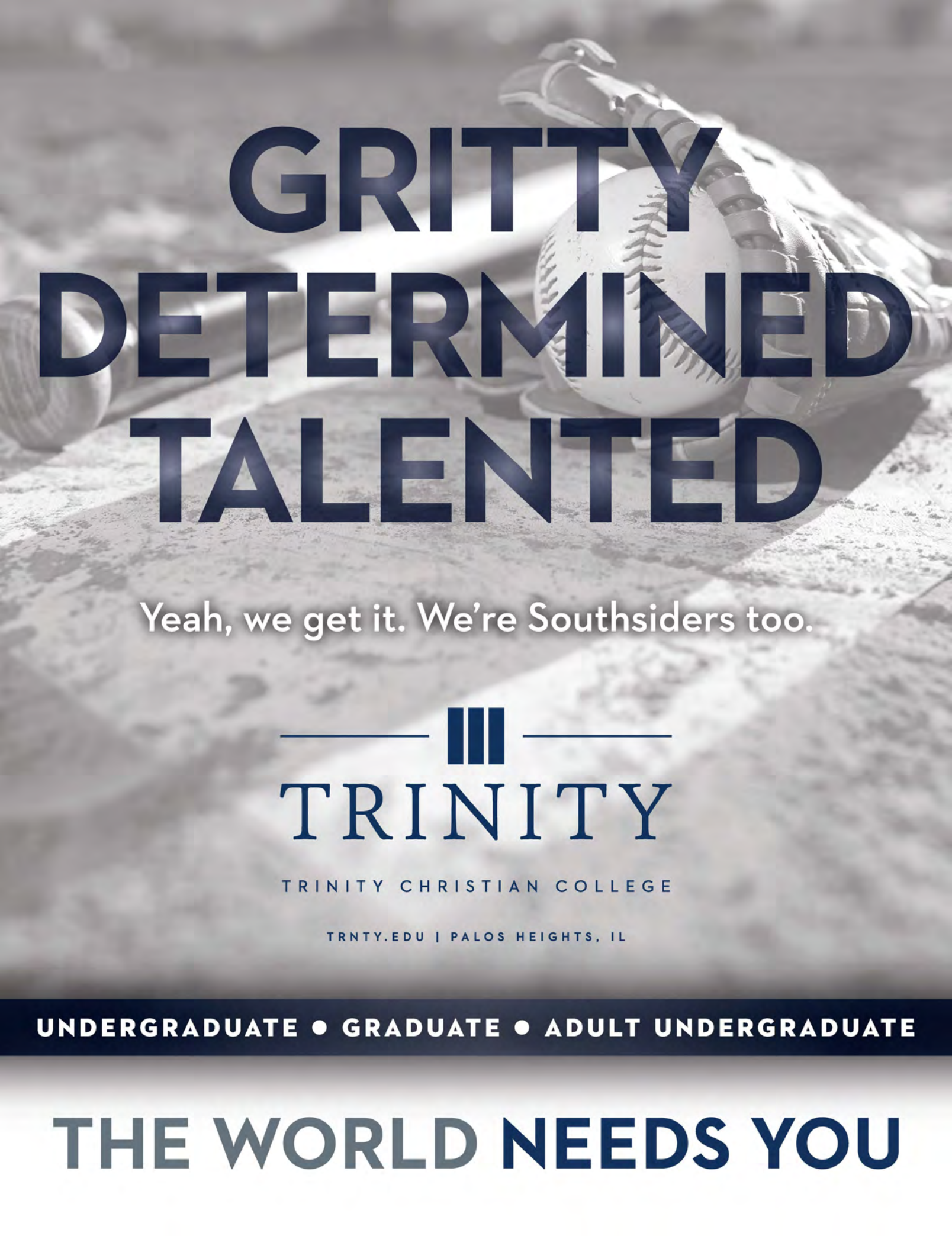
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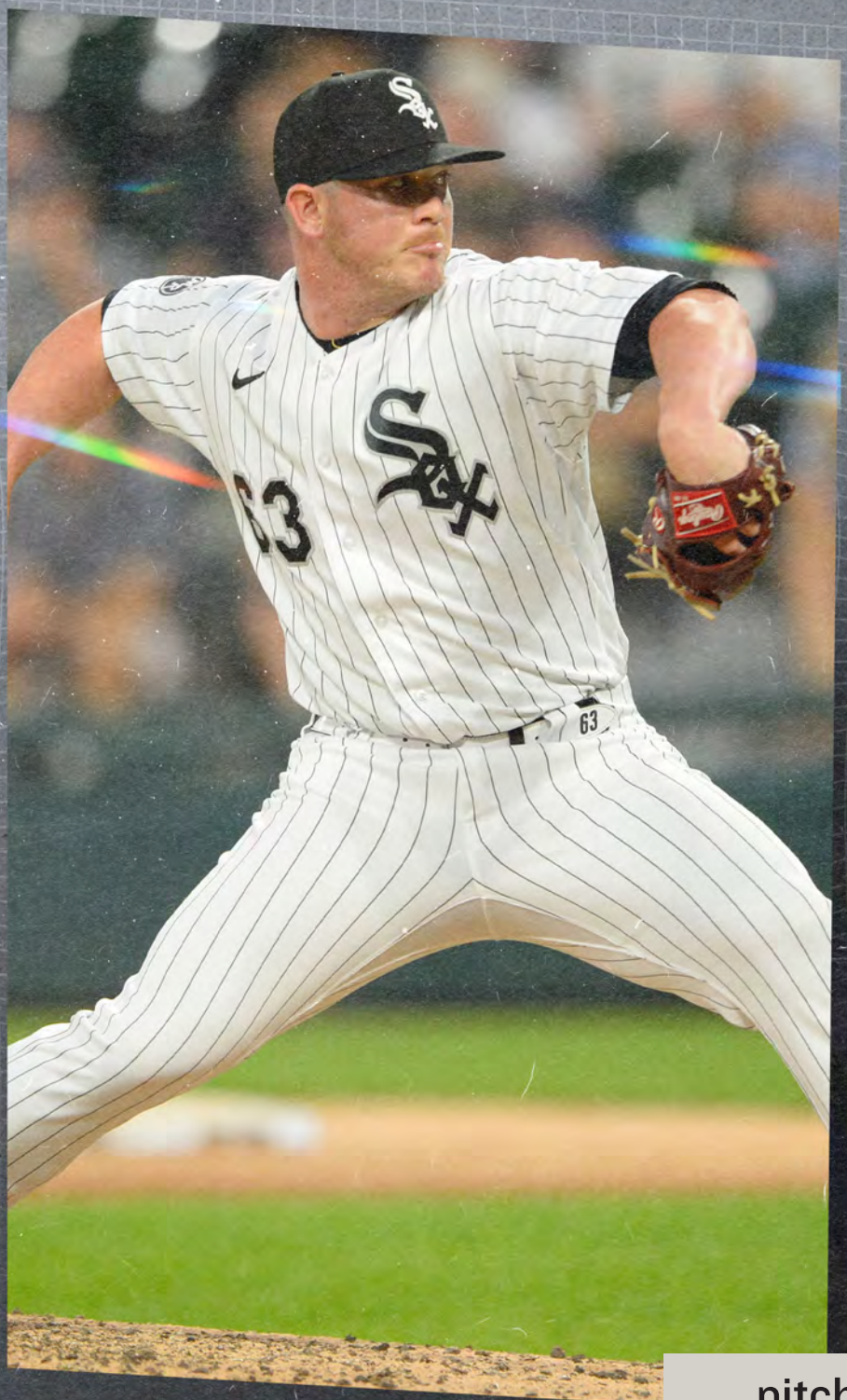

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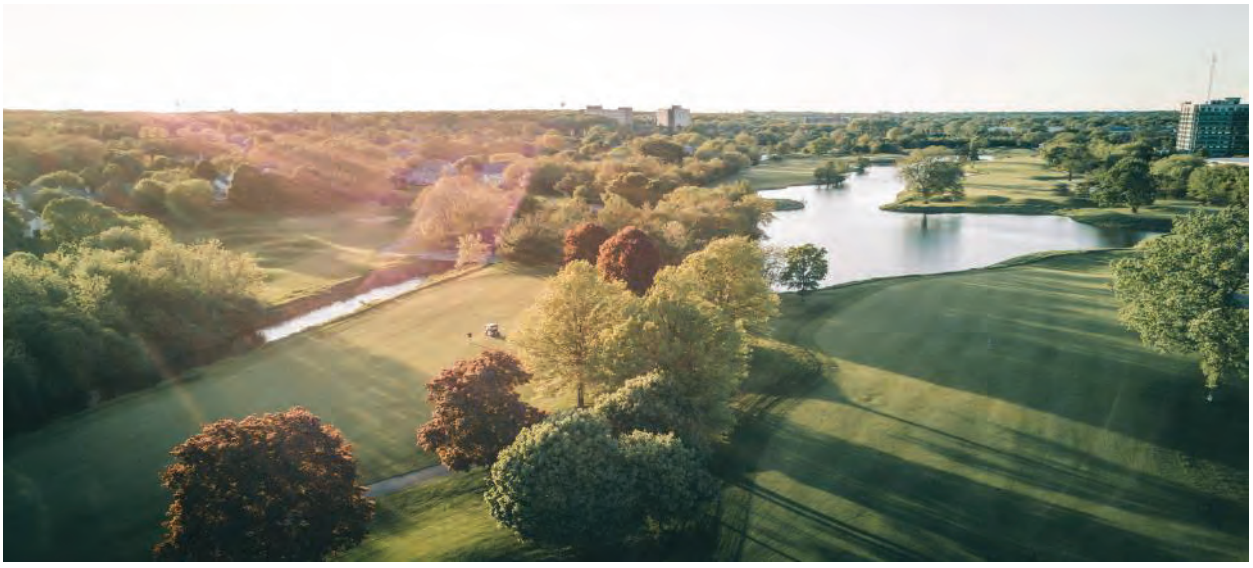

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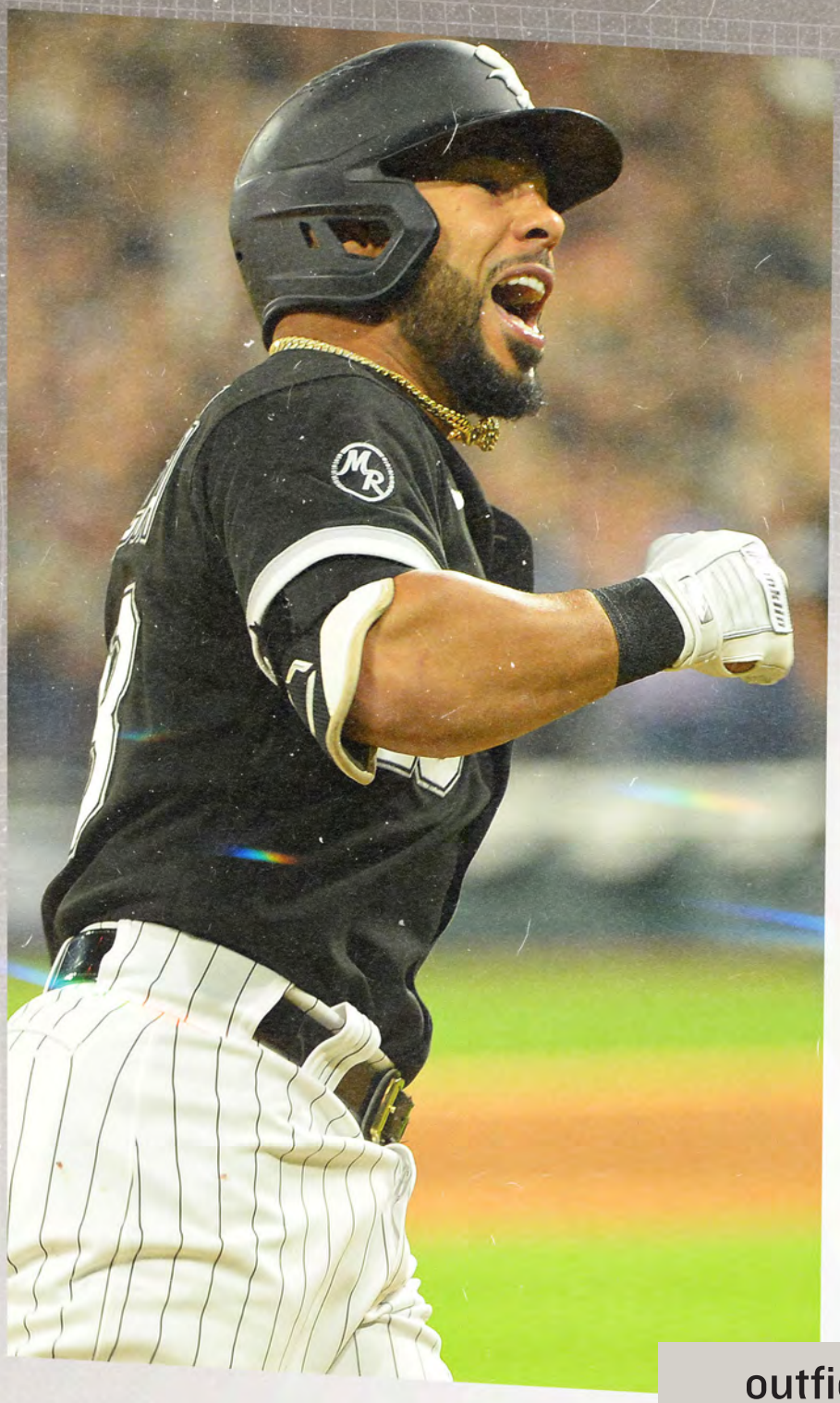

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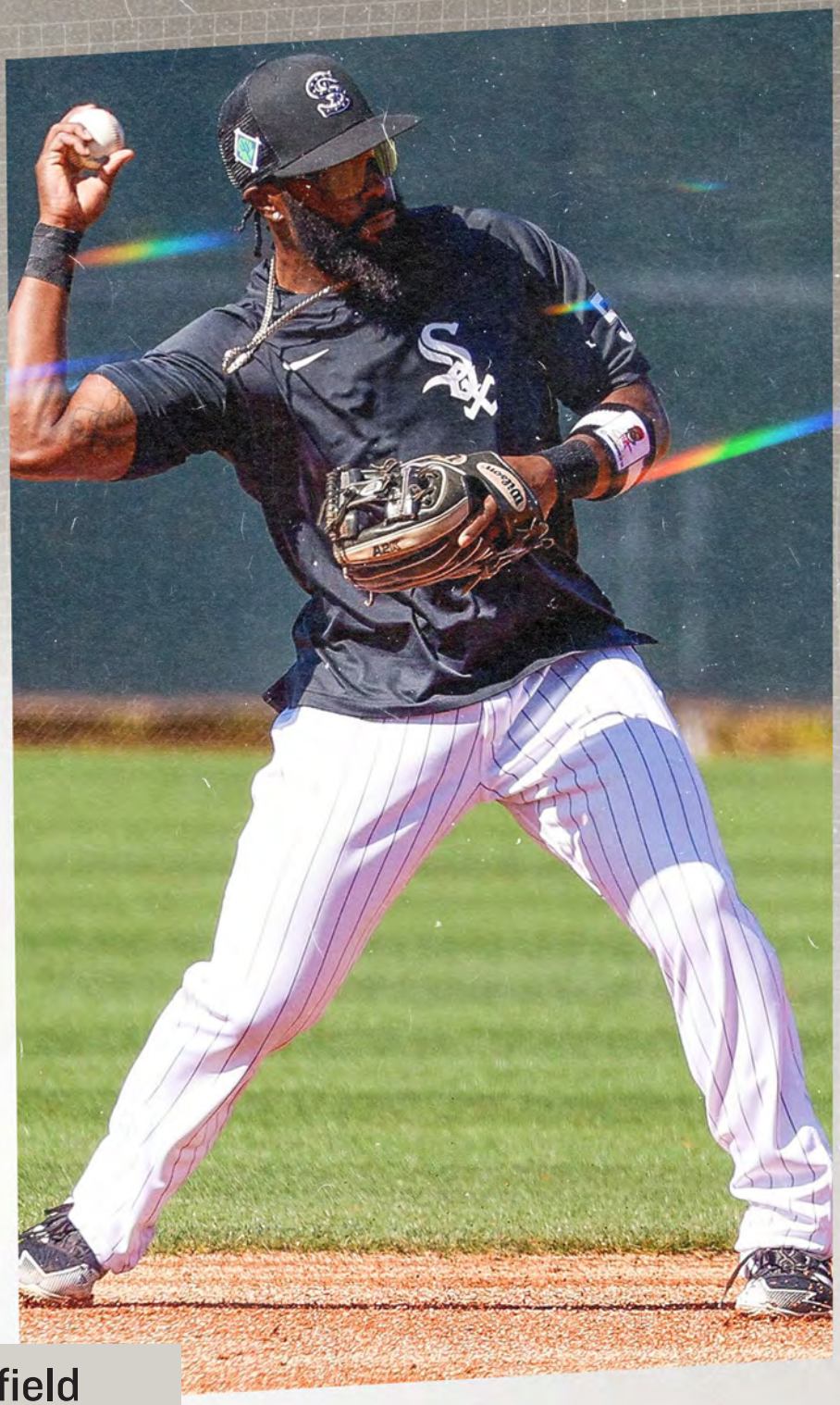

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pitcher

74 ELOY JIMÉNEZ

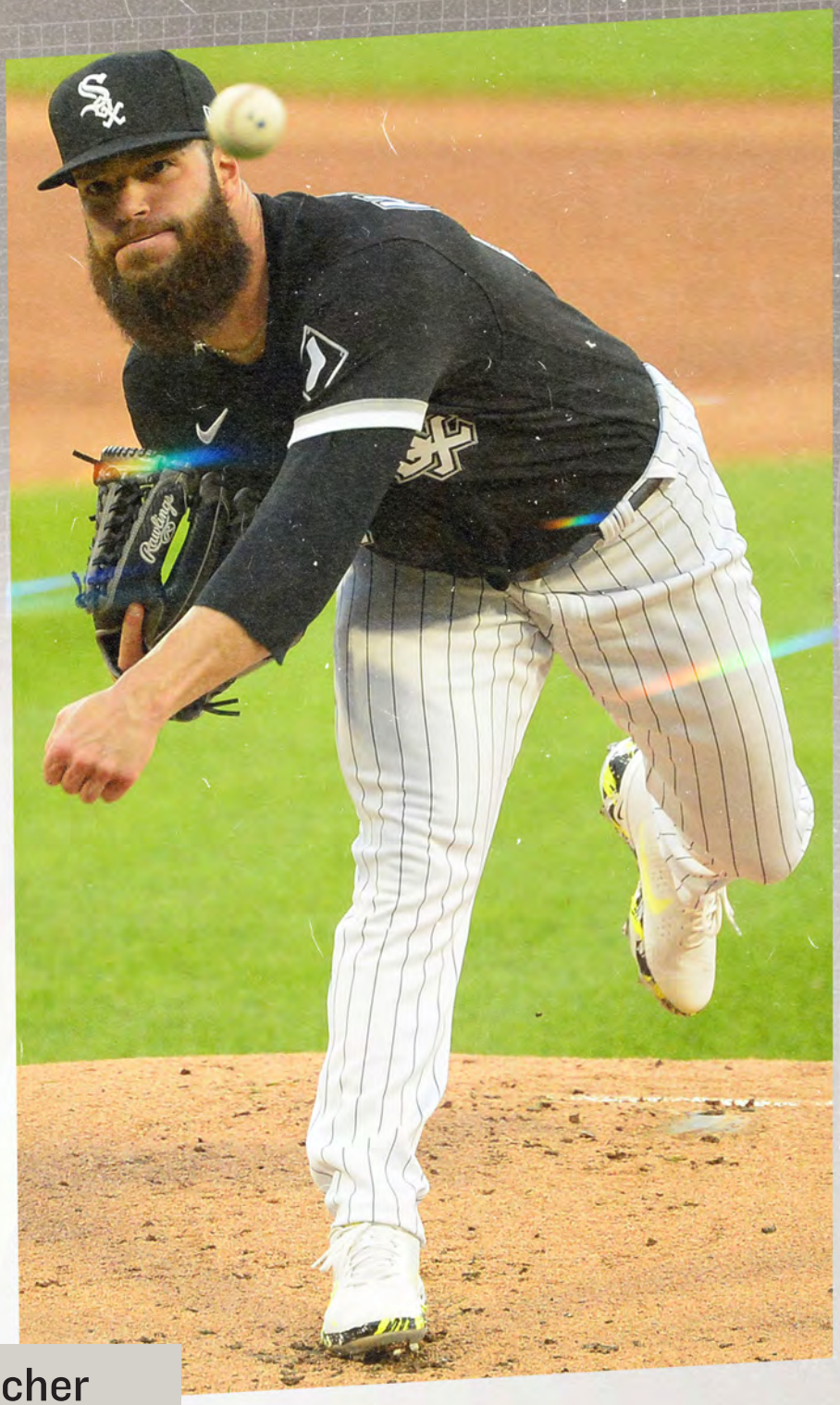
left field

JOE KELLY

17

pitcher

60 DALLAS KEUCHEL

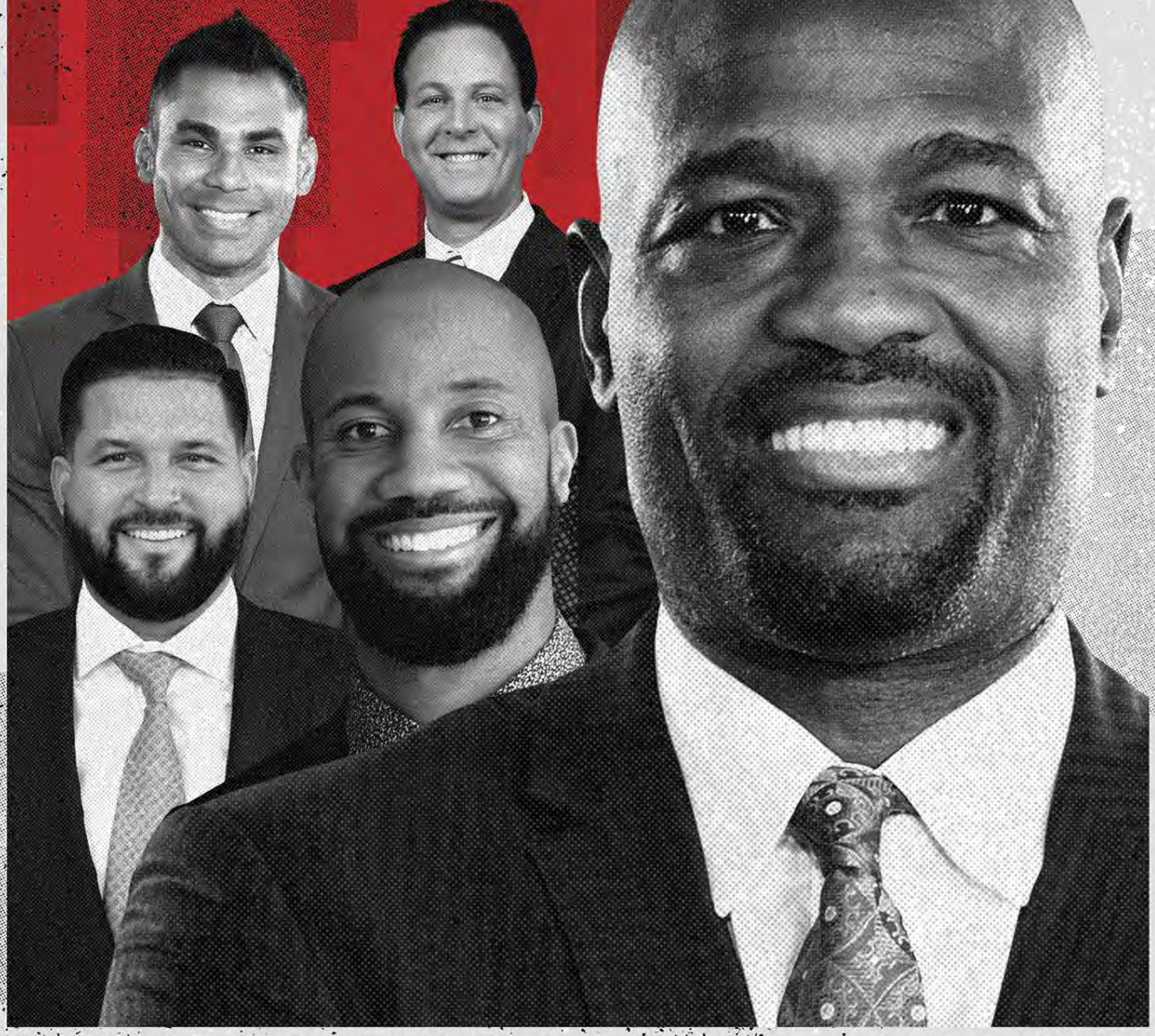


pitcher

CRAIG KIMBREL

46

pitcher



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MICHAEL KOPECH

34

pitcher

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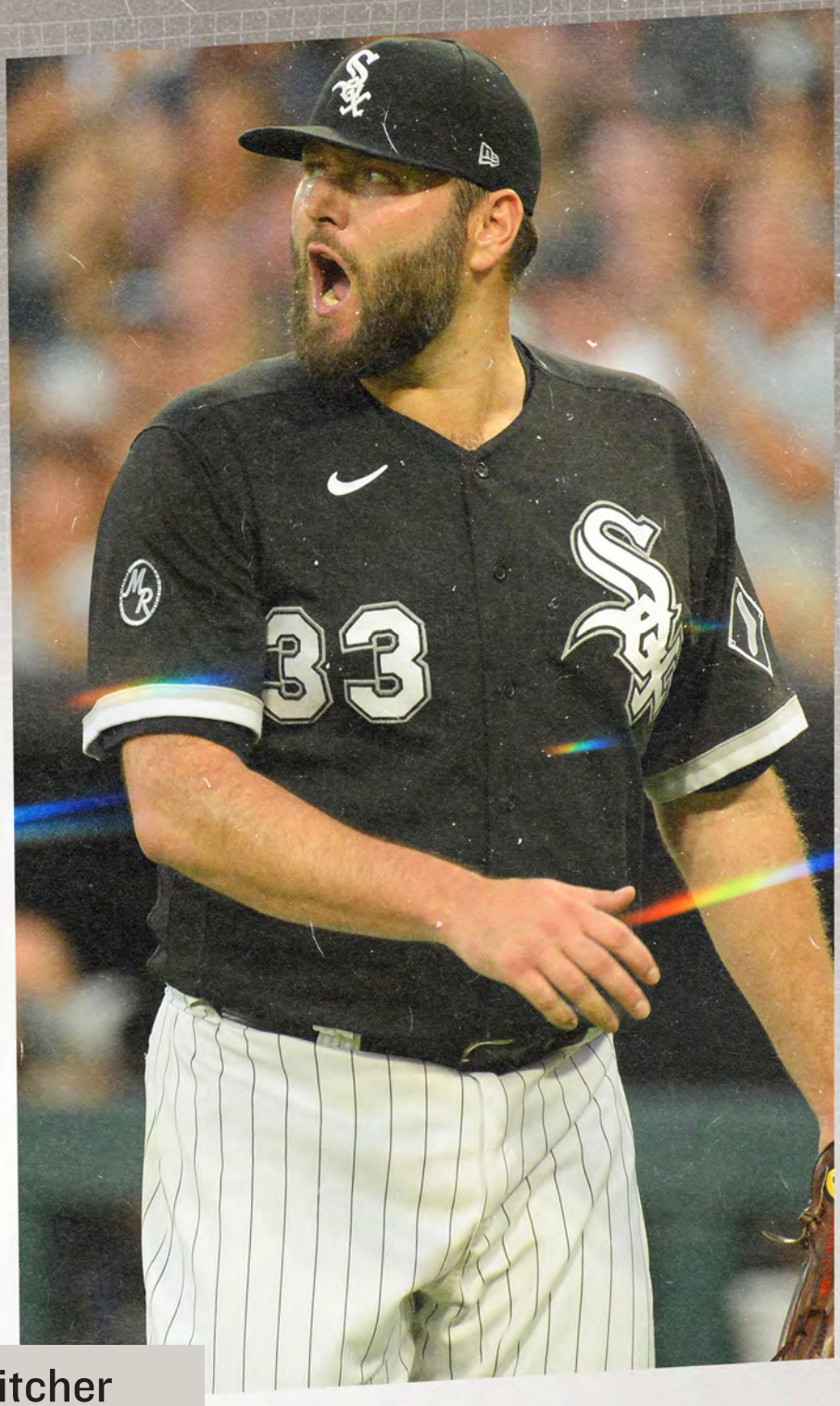
pitcher

33 LANCE LYNN



pitcher

DANNY MENDICK

20

infield

73 YERMÍN MERCEDES

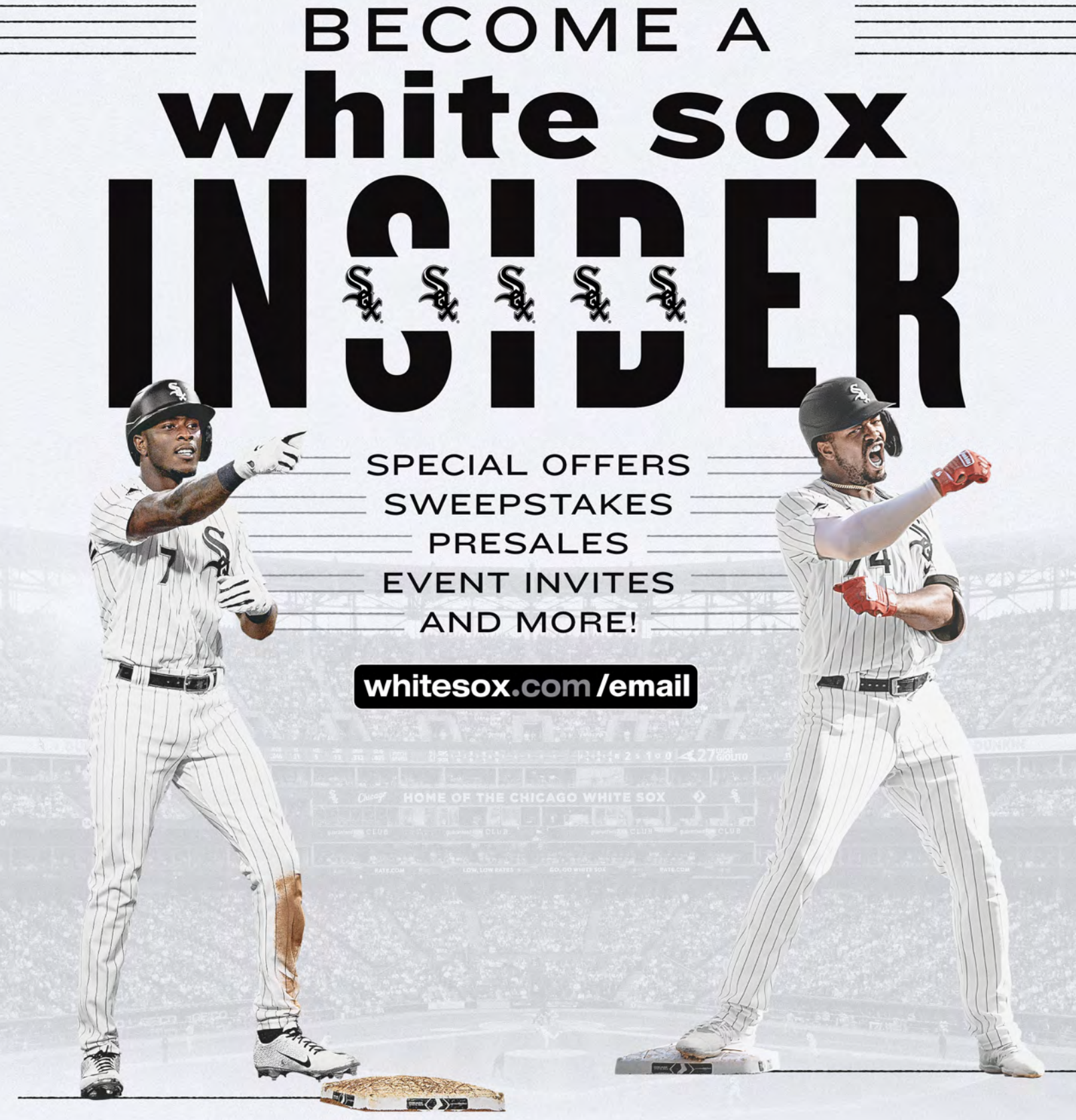
catcher

YOÁN 10 MONCADA

third base

88 LUIS ROBERT

center field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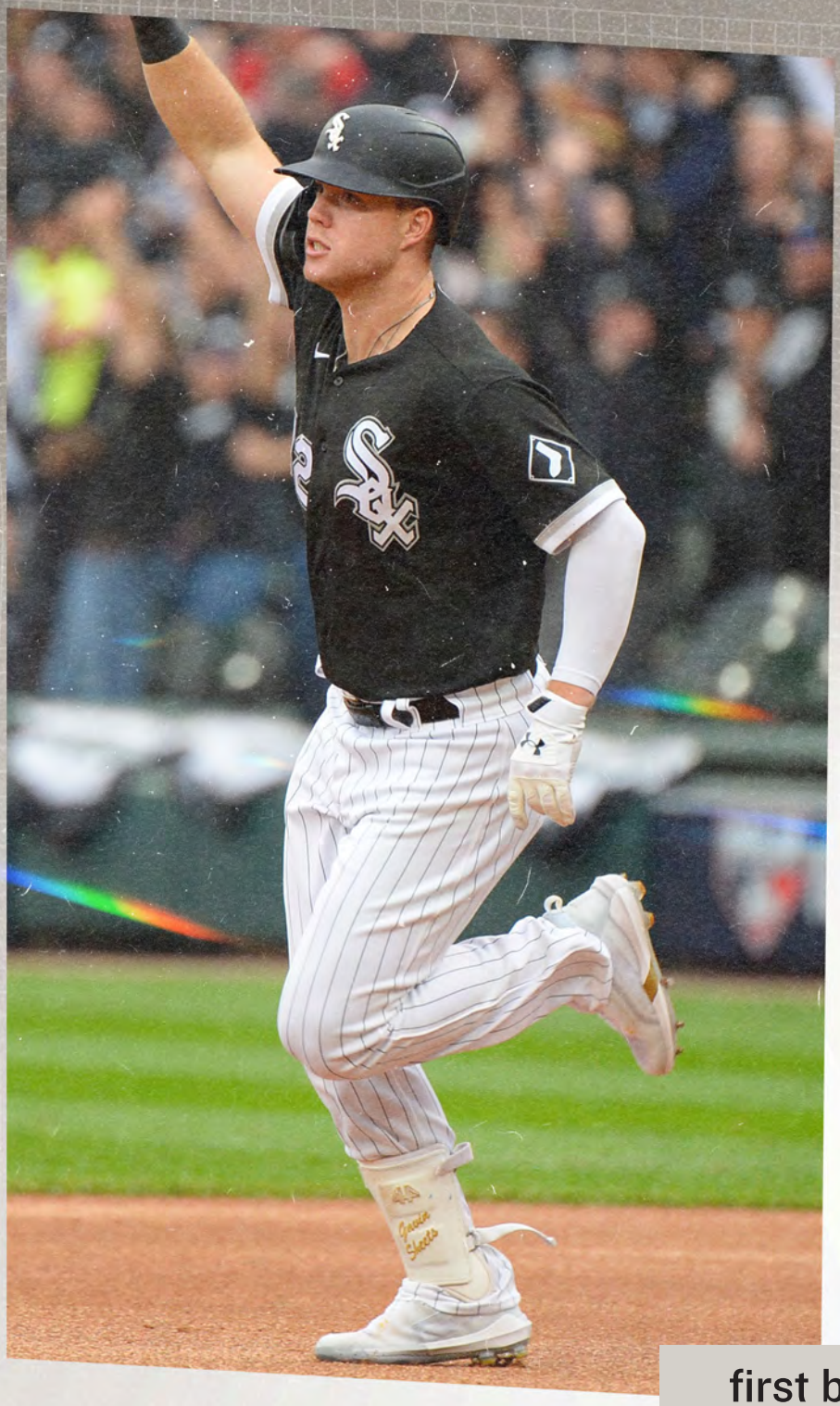
66 JOSÉ RUIZ

pitcher

GAVIN SHEETS

32



first base

25 ANDREW VASQUEZ

outfield

VINCE VELASQUEZ

23

pitcher

44 SEBY ZAVALA

catcher

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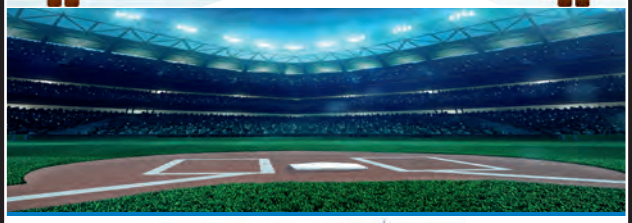

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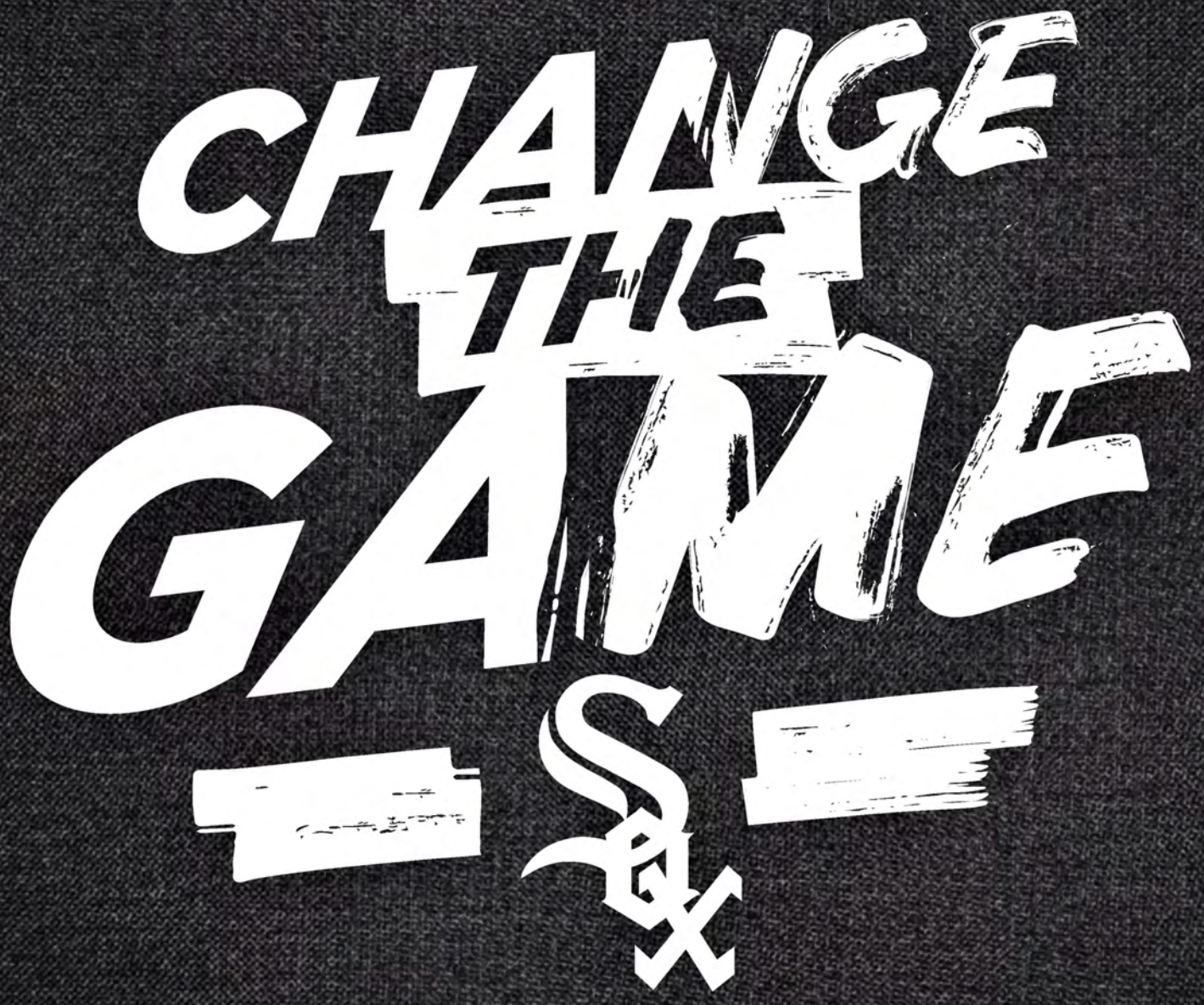
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THE
GAME
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